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1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

4 v.

21 Cr. 499 (PAE)

5 DAVON MIAL,

7 Defendant.

8 Trial

9 -----x

10 New York, N.Y.
11 October 18, 2022
9:00 a.m.

12 Before:

13 HON. PAUL A. ENGELMAYER,

14 District Judge

15 APPEARANCES

16 DAMIAN WILLIAMS

17 United States Attorney for the
Southern District of New York

18 BY: KEDAR S. BHATIA
ASHLEY C. NICOLAS
19 MATTHEW J.C. HELLMAN
Assistant United States Attorneys

20 LAW OFFICES OF DANIEL A. MCGUINNESS, PC

21 Attorney for Defendant

22 BY: DANIEL A. MCGUINNESS

23 Also Present:

24 OWEN FOLEY, U.S.A.O. Paralegal

NICHOLAS KIM, Defense Paralegal

SIMON OTERO, U.S.A.O. Paralegal Intern

25 SPECIAL AGENT ELLIOT RENZ, Homeland Security

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(Trial continued)

THE COURT: Be seated.

Good morning, counsel.

I have several items to take up with counsel this morning. The first involves the letter I received overnight from the government which supplements its letter at docket 236. The one I received overnight is at docket 239. And as indicated in docket 236, the government is now elaborating on the disclosures with respect to Officer 2 and taking the position that none of the disciplinary actions with respect to Officer 2 are proper impeachment material.

Let me ask, Mr. McGuinness, whether you oppose any of the application that the government makes.

MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor. Only as to the 2019 incidents.

THE COURT: Just to narrow the scope here. The government's letter at docket 239 really addresses three incidents, or sets of incidents. The second one so-called 2012 stop-and-frisk incident, you're not seeking to examine the witness on that?

MR. MCGUINNESS: No, I'm not.

THE COURT: Okay. And as to the third, which is the -- which the government refers to as the "2012 report incident," you're not seeking to examine the witness on that?

MR. MCGUINNESS: No, your Honor.

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1 THE COURT: So we're down to the 2019 incident.
2 You've read the government's advocacy. What's your position?

3 MR. McGUINNESS: Your Honor, I believe there's really
4 two issues at play here: One is that the conduct involved is
5 substantially similar to the types of testimony he's going to
6 be giving, and it's very recent. It's failure to properly
7 inventory the property. And that, as I understand from the
8 government's submissions and 3500 material, would be what this
9 officer is testifying about; that he conducted a search and
10 inventory of my client's vehicle.

11 THE COURT: Let me ask the government, what's the
12 substance of witness Officer 2's testimony?

13 MR. BHATIA: It is that he conducted a search of the
14 vehicle and found two items in that vehicle.

15 THE COURT: What are the two items that he says he
16 found?

17 MR. BHATIA: One of the items is a brown bag that was
18 later searched by another officer and found to contain
19 contraband, and the other item was a set of scales and a label
20 maker.

21 THE COURT: And will he be authenticating an inventory
22 that he created of those?

23 MR. BHATIA: He will be testifying that he actually
24 recovered these items. So we're not putting into evidence the
25 NYPD invoice. He's putting into evidence the actual items that

MAIQmial

1 he himself recovered.

2 THE COURT: I see. How does he know that he recovered
3 them?

4 MR. BHATIA: Upon seeing the items in preparation and
5 seeing the invoices, he has a recollection of recovering these
6 items.

7 THE COURT: Does he have a marking or his initials or
8 anything like that on the items?

9 MR. BHATIA: There's not a marking on the items
10 themselves.

11 THE COURT: All right. Back to you, Mr. McGuinness.
12 Let me see if I understand. The underlying what was
13 substantiated in the 2019 incident involved a failing to list
14 certain items on an invoice; not essentially putting false
15 information on an invoice but failing to list certain items,
16 correct?

17 MR. MCGUINNESS: I'm looking at the government's
18 submission.

19 THE COURT: That's what I'm looking at.

20 MR. MCGUINNESS: Based on what they've written.

21 THE COURT: Do you have any reason to think the facts
22 are otherwise? I just want to understand what the facts were
23 underlying the 2019 incident.

24 MR. MCGUINNESS: I don't have any reason to think
25 otherwise.

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1 THE COURT: You've read such discovery as there is on
2 that. Does it indicate something different? I just want to
3 make sure I have an understanding of facts.

4 MR. McGUINNESS: I don't have an indication of
5 anything different.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Bhatia? Just as to the
7 incident, I just want to make sure what his error was, if you
8 will, in 2019, was it essentially failing to include certain
9 items? Was it leaving items off?

10 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, so based on the information
11 that we have, we received yesterday -- upon asking for some
12 more information about this, we received yesterday an NYPD
13 record about this incident in particular, and we produced that
14 to the defense. This record reflects that the witness was
15 alleged to have neglected to include certain items on an
16 invoice voucher, and he was provided the additional instruction
17 that he needs to do a more thorough job when preparing the
18 invoices.

19 THE COURT: It's not that there's a false statement on
20 the invoice; it's that the invoice is in some respect
21 incomplete. I realize there's a subtlety there, but that's the
22 nature of the deficiency.

23 MR. BHATIA: The word in the corrective instruction
24 that stands out to me was the instruction that he should be
25 more thorough in preparing invoices going forward.

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1 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. McGuinness, if that's what we
2 know about these invoices, are you offering this as to the --
3 to show Officer 2's character for truthfulness, or something
4 else?

5 MR. MCGUINNESS: Well, your Honor, I believe
6 truthfulness and something else. I believe it indicates
7 possibly he was being deliberately untruthful in the invoice
8 despite his self-serving explanation that he simply neglected
9 to do a proper invoice, and I believe it requires and calls for
10 additional exploration during cross-examination, and I believe
11 it also shows a pattern and history, a very recent one, of
12 failure to do these invoicings correctly.

13 THE COURT: Well, if it's a pattern issue that you're
14 talking about, you're really offering it as something like a
15 404(b), right? In other words, one theory is that this is
16 proper impeachment evidence, if you will, under Rule 608, I
17 guess. The other theory is that it's admissible under 404(b).

18 MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes, Judge, I believe it would be.

19 THE COURT: And the theory is that because there are
20 these two substantiated incidents where he is less than
21 complete in an invoice, because that's the information we have,
22 therefore, as to the invoices here, he is leaving something out
23 or falsely including something.

24 MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor. He's not accurately
25 documenting the items that he's receiving in a particular

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1 situation on more than one occasion, and that his invoices
2 cannot be relied on. I think that's a fair conclusion that the
3 jury could reach.

4 THE COURT: The government says they're not offering
5 the invoice. In other words, the issue is not -- there's no
6 claim that the officer has ever falsely testified. The issue
7 is his documentation track record, if you will, that you're
8 putting in question, insofar as the government, I take it, is
9 not offering the invoice itself, they are simply -- they are
10 going to put before him what was seized and ask him whether he
11 recalls retrieving it.

12 MR. McGUINNESS: My understanding from the
13 government's statements just a moment ago was he only recalls
14 the search based on his viewing of the items and the invoice.
15 So his basis of testimony is that invoice that he himself
16 filled out.

17 THE COURT: I think what the government said was that
18 upon reviewing the invoice, it refreshed his recollection, but
19 let me see if I've got that right.

20 Mr. Bhatia, what, if any, role does the invoice play
21 here in enabling the officer to testify as he -- I gather it's
22 a he -- will.

23 MR. BHATIA: I think the invoice did refresh his
24 recollection, and I think this witness recalled seeing some
25 items -- upon looking at all the items from the search of the

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1 vehicle, recalled seizing some of them, and will testify about
2 the ones that he seized, and didn't recall seizing other ones.
3 So I think that's an indicia that the witness has sort of
4 accurately refreshed his recollection about what he recovered
5 and personally observed, and he'll be testifying from his
6 recollection, not from the invoices.

7 THE COURT: Mr. McGuinness.

8 MR. MCGUINNESS: Well, your Honor, I think that is
9 assuming a lot of testimony that is forthcoming, and if he is
10 on the stand and he's saying "I don't have an independent
11 recollection. Based on this invoice, I believe I did such and
12 such," I think that would change things substantially.

13 Your Honor, there is another basis that I think it
14 should be let in on.

15 THE COURT: Yes.

16 MR. MCGUINNESS: That is, the more concerning one,
17 that he's met with the government very recently, discussing
18 these very recent events and claims to not remember them. I
19 just don't think that that's credible. In fact, he's told the
20 government, "Had this happened, I would remember it," as to if
21 to say it didn't happen. I think that's a misrepresentation.

22 THE COURT: You're going very fast. You need to slow
23 this down. Explain to me what the issue is.

24 MR. MCGUINNESS: This officer has met with the
25 government recently. I see in the 3500 material he is saying,

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1 "I don't recall this. I don't have any recollection."

2 THE COURT: Than what's the "this"?

3 MR. McGUINNESS: Sorry, Judge. Of these 2019
4 incidents.

5 THE COURT: Sorry. It's not that he doesn't recall
6 what he's going to be testifying about here as to Mr. Mial.
7 It's that he doesn't recall the incidents that resulted in
8 his -- these substantiated allegations.

9 MR. McGUINNESS: Yes, and receiving the verbal
10 instructions as a result.

11 THE COURT: So you want to use the fact that you
12 believe that he is dissembling to the government in improbably
13 claiming not to remember this disciplinary event, you would
14 want to use, in effect, to impeach him, the theory being if he
15 lied to Mr. Bhatia in the last few days about failing to
16 remember a disciplinary event, he's capable of lying on other
17 occasions. Is that basically the chain of logic?

18 MR. McGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor, that's it.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Bhatia, what's your response on that?

20 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the witness has been
21 forthright about incidents of alleged misconduct where there
22 was a proceeding, he was accused of serious misconduct, he was
23 found not guilty. He's disclosed those incidents to us, and --

24 THE COURT: Sorry. Is Mr. McGuinness correct that the
25 witness in meeting with you did not recall the fact of a, you

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1 know, disciplinary inquiry or whatever the right word is, for
2 the 2019 incident?

3 MR. BHATIA: That's right. We asked the witness about
4 it. And once we received that additional record yesterday, we
5 asked the witness about some of the contents of that to see if
6 it refreshed his recollection at all about this incident. The
7 witness, what I expect his -- you know, what he said to us is
8 that he just does not have any recollection of any type of
9 allegation regarding an invoice or property clerk discrepancy,
10 and he doesn't have any recollection of getting verbal
11 instructions to say that he should fix it. He's disclosed
12 other conduct to us, but this one he says, "I really don't have
13 any recollection of this."

14 THE COURT: Is that credible?

15 MR. BHATIA: I think it is credible, your Honor. I
16 think at least, you know, when we met with the witness, I found
17 it to be credible. I think the witness told us about other
18 conduct and said, "For this one, I just don't know anything
19 about this."

20 THE COURT: Where does the items that were seized,
21 where do they fit into the case? Sorry.

22 MR. BHATIA: One moment, your Honor.

23 (Counsel consult)

24 THE COURT: Mr. Bhatia.

25 MR. BHATIA: Yes, your Honor. I think it's worth

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1 noting in this instance that this was not a formal adjudicatory
2 finding that resulted in this incident. Instead, it looks like
3 it was what we understand to be a fairly routine NYPD incident
4 where an individual instructed -- where a sergeant -- where a
5 lieutenant instructed a more junior member of his staff, "You
6 need to be more thorough in preparing invoices."

7 There was also another officer who was given a similar
8 instruction regarding the same incident, and because there was
9 no formal sort of adjudicatory process, this might have been a
10 fairly routine incident. Ultimately, when we met with the
11 officer, we found it to be credible that he just doesn't have a
12 recollection of this.

13 THE COURT: All right. Tell me where the evidence
14 that's going to be received from Officer 2 fits in. It's a
15 vehicle search. When is it in time?

16 MR. BHATIA: Sure. At the time the defendant was
17 arrested on August 9, 2021, he was leaving his apartment
18 building and walking towards his vehicle. Officers seized from
19 the defendant's person contraband. Officers then also
20 subsequently seized his vehicle for which they had a search
21 warrant.

22 THE COURT: And this witness doesn't testify about the
23 person, but the vehicle.

24 MR. BHATIA: He testifies about the vehicle.

25 THE COURT: Not the person.

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1 MR. BHATIA: Not the person.

2 THE COURT: What was found on the person and what was
3 found in the vehicle?

4 MR. BHATIA: On the person was 67 capsules containing
5 crack cocaine.

6 THE COURT: What's in the vehicle?

7 MR. BHATIA: There were several items in the vehicle,
8 your Honor, so I just want to -- there were scales. There were
9 empty plastic capsules, which are used for distributing crack
10 cocaine, and there was a small quantity of narcotics.

11 THE COURT: Meaning crack cocaine?

12 MR. BHATIA: Crack cocaine.

13 THE COURT: And the substantive counts, are any of
14 them based on the events of August 9 or are those on buys from
15 the undercover on other days?

16 MR. BHATIA: Buys from the undercover on other days.

17 THE COURT: So, in other words, the relevance of this
18 is that it is evidence in support of the conspiracy count, and
19 it may have some tendency to support the substantive counts but
20 it postdates the substantive counts.

21 MR. BHATIA: That's correct.

22 THE COURT: All right. One moment. With respect to
23 the substantive counts where there are five incidents of sales,
24 I take it this officer has nothing to do with the receipt of
25 the crack cocaine that was purchased on those five days?

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1 MR. BHATIA: Not to my knowledge.

2 THE COURT: All right. One moment.

3 Counsel, just while I reflect on this, let me take up
4 one issue with the undercover. We will take a break,
5 regardless of whether we've already taken a mid-morning break,
6 just to get assembled for the undercover.

7 I want to make sure there is a person at the door
8 here, not just a sign that is able to steer anyone who is not
9 authorized to be here during the undercover's testimony to the
10 separate courtroom where the testimony is being beamed in. I
11 take it the U.S. Attorney's Office has somebody in that
12 courtroom who is going to be there to make available the
13 exhibits. I want to make sure there is a human being as well
14 at our door here.

15 MS. NICOLAS: We will make sure of that, your Honor.
16 Mr. Otero will be the one in the satellite room, and we will
17 also make sure someone is at the door.

18 THE COURT: At the brief break I give you between this
19 colloquy and the start of the opening statements, please
20 coordinate with Mr. Smallman. I just want to make sure we've
21 got all that down.

22 MS. NICOLAS: Of course.

23 THE COURT: Okay. One moment. May I ask you,
24 Mr. Bhatia, how long has the officer been on the force?

25 MR. BHATIA: More than a decade, your Honor.

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1 THE COURT: Will the government be eliciting any
2 affirmative testimony about the invoice, regardless of whether
3 it's offering the invoice on the witness' direct examination?

4 MR. BHATIA: One moment, your Honor.

5 (Counsel consult)

6 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, part of the reason the
7 witness knows that these scales and this bag are the ones that
8 he recovered are because they're associated with an invoice
9 identifying him.

10 THE COURT: So it's not that the testimony is going to
11 be devoid of references to an invoice; it's part of the
12 narrative by which his memory has been, in effect, refreshed.

13 MR. BHATIA: That's right.

14 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

15 Look, counsel, first of all, I want to thank the
16 government for the two letters that fronted this issue, docket
17 236 and docket 239. That's exactly the right way to deal with
18 these things. Imagine if this had come up just through a
19 verbal presentation this morning. It would have been much
20 harder for me to follow. So to begin, thank you for teeing up
21 the issue in that way.

22 I'm going to exclude evidence of the 2019 incident.
23 Here is how I analyze it. The threshold issue is whether the
24 2019 incident is proper impeachment with respect to the
25 witness's character for truthfulness. It is not. There is no

MAIQmial

1 adjudication, or even apparent allegation, that the witness in
2 some sense willfully lied about anything. At most what I
3 gather from the government's letter and from its verbal proffer
4 is that the witness was alleged to have neglected to include
5 certain items on an invoice voucher and was admonished to be
6 more thorough.

7 At the end of the day, that is not indicative of
8 character or truthfulness. It may say something about
9 recordkeeping, but it's not indicative of character or
10 truthfulness, nor is it productive in any event to undertake an
11 inquiry about this incident to see if maybe through
12 cross-examination ultimately one would get to a place in which
13 an argument could be made that the officer had been untruthful.
14 I think at that point we wind up in the 403 problem of a trial
15 within a trial where a lot of time is spent trying to unpack a
16 long-ago incident three years ago involving the caliber of
17 recordkeeping on a pair of invoices.

18 And there would be some capacity for unfair prejudice
19 to the extent the jury mistook the inquiry into all of that or
20 that evidence as reflecting bad character of the witness,
21 Officer 2, as that would not be a proper basis for impeachment.
22 The judgment that because the officer was imperfect with
23 respect to his recordkeeping in connection with a couple of
24 invoices, he's therefore untruthful. That doesn't follow.

25 Now, there's a separate argument -- there are really

MAIQmial

1 two separate arguments the defense makes. The next one is that
2 the officer's habits with respect to the making of invoices are
3 put at issue, and the fact that the officer had two apparently
4 incomplete or not thorough invoices on a prior occasion might
5 suggest that the invoice here also is similarly incomplete or
6 unthorough.

7 That actually presents a somewhat closer issue, but at
8 the end of the day exercising my discretion under Rule 404(b)
9 and Rule 403, I'm going to exclude it as well. We're quite far
10 from a situation where something looks like a similar act here.
11 Officers make out many, many invoices over the course of a
12 career. This officer, it is proffered to me, has been on the
13 force for more than a decade. There is no suggestion of some
14 signature error here. The record as it's presented to me is
15 that the officer appears to have left something out from an
16 invoice. There is no allegation here of that. Presumably the
17 nature of the cross here is trying to suggest that the officer
18 fabricated the claim that in the search of the vehicle he found
19 narcotics paraphernalia, scales, empty capsules, narcotics.
20 This officer did not do the search of the person roughly
21 contemporaneously that uncovered the 67 capsules. So there
22 really isn't similarity except at a high level of generality,
23 generality being the allegation that the officer's invoicing
24 was unthorough.

25 I think the probative value, therefore, of this is

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1 remote. It isn't really similar. I realize the Second Circuit
2 has an inclusive approach with respect to 404(b), but at the
3 end of the day, this appears to be more in the nature of a bad
4 character examination. Officer booted his invoices twice,
5 therefore, he has in a different way and in a much more
6 malicious way booted his invoices another time. I find
7 limited, if any, probative value. It appears to me this is
8 more in the nature of bad character evidence.

9 In any event, even if there were proper probative
10 value such that the officer's having been deficient with
11 respect to an invoice at a prior time might be fair cross that
12 he in a much more serious way made up issues on an invoice,
13 made up the seizure of the narcotics paraphernalia here, it
14 would be outweighed by other 403 factors. Once again, you'd
15 have a trial within a trial trying to reconstruct what
16 happening in an episode involving invoicing.

17 It is represented to me by the government that the
18 witness doesn't remember this episode, which would mean to get
19 anywhere on cross, we would effectively be bringing in other
20 evidence. That can't happen. That is an improper mode of
21 impeachment by collateral evidence, but it also creates
22 confusion, delay and unfair prejudice to exhaustively get into
23 a paperwork episode from several years ago. And so even if
24 there were a proper purpose under 404(b), it is clearly
25 outweighed its probative value by 403.

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1 The final argument that defense counsel makes is that
2 the witness apparently in recent witness prep simply failed to
3 recall the incident in question, and defense counsel argues
4 that that may be a false statement and on that ground seeks to
5 use the alleged false statement in prep, if you will, as a mode
6 of impeachment.

7 Government counsel represents based on his contact
8 with the witness that he did not believe the witness was
9 failing to -- was lying about that. The Court is obviously in
10 no position to make a credibility judgment, let alone about a
11 witness I haven't seen.

12 Nonetheless, just ruling simply on the basis of 403,
13 the probative value of the incident, I take it in prep, is
14 significantly outweighed by countervailing factors under Rule
15 403. Whether the witness sincerely or insincerely failed to
16 recall an incident involving his being reprimanded for
17 unthorough recordkeeping three years ago is pretty far afield
18 here. Even if one indulges the hypothetical that he was
19 conveniently claiming to fail to remember, it's a considerable
20 leap to suggest that that calls into question his claim to have
21 found these items in question in the defendant's car. And,
22 again, the countervailing factors under 403 would outweigh any
23 probative value of impeachment cross like that. It would
24 create a trial within a trial as we tried to reconstruct both
25 what happened in prep, but, more important, the underlying

MAIQmial

1 incident and whether it would tend to be memorable or not.

2 The government represents, for example, that this was
3 an informal corrective given by an immediate lieutenant
4 supervisor, not a formal proceeding. There would be a debate
5 then as to whether or not this sort of reprimand is the type of
6 thing in the natural order of things that an officer would tend
7 to remember. We're getting very far afield from the evidence
8 in this case. So on that one, I exclude it under Rule 403.

9 May I ask the government whether the government will
10 be introducing the items that the officer claims to have seized
11 from the vehicle?

12 MR. BHATIA: Yes, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: So the final point is to the extent there
14 is a theory that this was fabricated, there is a form of
15 corroboration in that the items themselves actually exist and
16 will be brought into court?

17 MR. BHATIA: That's right.

18 THE COURT: Therein ends the ruling.

19 Let me turn -- because the jury is likely here or will
20 be here imminently -- just to the undercover testimony. Again,
21 we'll take a break, but I just want to make sure, and I gather,
22 Ms. Nicolas, you're owning this one?

23 MS. NICOLAS: I am.

24 THE COURT: I take it, you're putting the undercover
25 on?

MAIQmial

1 MS. NICOLAS: I am.

2 THE COURT: Walk me through all the procedures that
3 are in place just to make sure that there's full compliance
4 with the Circuit's rules and my order about the undercover.

5 MS. NICOLAS: Of course, your Honor.

6 First, as to the use of the pseudonym, we'll be
7 swearing the undercover in under his true name prior outside
8 the presence of both the jury and the defendant. He'll then
9 testify under the pseudonym, which we've established with the
10 counsel and Court, which is Ed Murphy. He will testify in a
11 closed courtroom, but the defendant's family will be permitted
12 in the courtroom as well as a member of the district's press
13 pool.

14 THE COURT: Pause on that for a moment.

15 Mr. McGuinness, do you expect any members of your
16 client's family to be here today, and, in particular, during
17 that testimony?

18 MR. MCGUINNESS: No, your Honor.

19 THE COURT: But you understand that in the event that
20 somebody from the defendant's family were to show up, they are
21 at liberty to be here?

22 MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes.

23 THE COURT: But you're confident no one will elect to
24 do so?

25 MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes. There was a prior agreement

MAIQmial

1 that I would provide the names and, I believe, birth dates to
2 the government. We haven't done so, so we've alerted anybody
3 who might show up will go to the overflow room.

4 THE COURT: Very good. Thank you for doing that.

5 Back you to, Ms. Nicolas.

6 MS. NICOLAS: The government will work with
7 Mr. Smallman to put a sign on the door of the courtroom, as
8 well as to station someone in the hallway to direct people to
9 the satellite courtroom, which I understand is 506.

10 THE COURT: Right.

11 MS. NICOLAS: In the satellite courtroom, there will
12 be both a video feed that I understand will be focused off the
13 screen of the undercover but will also allow for those in the
14 overflow courtroom to see what's being displayed on the jury's
15 screen. So insofar as the undercover is testifying about
16 exhibits, they're displayed on a screen, those will be visible.

17 As a backup, we've also placed a binder in the
18 satellite courtroom that includes photographs of any of the
19 physical exhibits as well as those exhibits that would be on
20 the screen.

21 THE COURT: Very good. Who will be minding the
22 binder, if you will?

23 MS. NICOLAS: Mr. Otero will be down in the satellite
24 courtroom for the duration of the UC's testimony.

25 THE COURT: Thank you. Make sure that whoever you

MAIQmial

Opening - Ms. Nicolas

1 have here is instructed during the break we have before the
2 undercover comes in. I don't want somebody out there steering
3 people away for fear that it could be, for example, overheard
4 by a juror that went out to the restroom. That person really
5 needs to be there only once the jury is here in the courtroom.
6 I want to make sure there's no contact.

7 All right. I'm told by Mr. Smallman that the jury is
8 all present. We have been at this will for a half hour. I
9 will give everyone a two minute comfort break. Once you're
10 back, we'll bring in the jury.

11 (Recess)

12 THE COURT: Mr. Smallman, let's get the jury.

13 (Jury present)

14 THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.
15 Please be seated. I hope you all had a good evening last
16 night, and thank you for all being on time today. We're off to
17 a very good start.

18 As I told you yesterday, we'll begin the trial with
19 opening statements. We'll begin with the government.

20 Ms. Nicolas.

21 MS. NICOLAS: For over a year, month after month, day
22 after day, rain or shine, a group of men worked together to
23 sell crack cocaine in Midtown Manhattan, hundreds of grams of
24 crack cocaine packaged with thousands of their signature, small
25 multicolored capsules. Day and night they sold crack to

MAIQmial

Opening - Ms. Nicolas

1 vulnerable drug dealers in one of the busiest parts of the City,
2 a spot just a block away from the center of Times Square, a
3 place where they could be sure to have a steady flow of
4 customers desperate for the crew's poisonous product.

5 This man, Davon Mial, the defendant, was a member of
6 that drug crew. As a member of that crew, he weighed,
7 packaged, and sold crack to his customers in broad daylight on
8 the streets of New York over and over and over again. Members
9 of the jury, that's what this case is about: An
10 around-the-clock crack cocaine operation in the heart of
11 Manhattan. For his sales and for agreeing with others to sell
12 crack, that is, for participating in a conspiracy, the
13 defendant has been charged with multiple federal drug crimes.
14 That is why we are here.

15 So what exactly will the evidence show about this drug
16 crew? Put simply, I expect that it will show for well over a
17 year if someone wanted to buy crack in Times Square, the
18 stretch of 8th Avenue occupied by the defendant and his crew
19 was the place to get it.

20 The evidence will show that the defendant and his crew
21 worked hard to keep business flowing: Rainy fall days, cold
22 winter days, during the Covid pandemic. Over and over again
23 the defendant and those working with him made crack available
24 to anyone who wanted it, including on over 60 occasions to an
25 undercover officer from the NYPD.

MAIQmial

Opening - Ms. Nicolas

1 The evidence will show that this crew coordinated
2 their operations. They kept shifts, splitting their work force
3 between a day team and a night team, both responsible for
4 peddling the crack packaged in this crew's signature, small
5 multicolored capsules. Even as the pandemic raged, the
6 defendant and his crew made crack available on otherwise quiet
7 streets. And once they identified a loyal customer on the
8 block, they did what it takes to keep their business, offering
9 to meet those customers at convenient locations, and directing
10 them to other members of the crew for prompt service from
11 within the organization.

12 The evidence will show that as a member of this crew,
13 the defendant repeatedly and brazenly sold drugs on the
14 sidewalks of Midtown, and he did it more than almost anybody
15 else in the crew. The defendant's customers had options. They
16 could simply walk to the block and approach the defendant or
17 one of the other dealers in the crew. If that dealer was
18 holding a supply, they would just sell it to the customer
19 directly. If not, they'd point that customer to another member
20 of the crew for service. The defendant's customers could also
21 contact him in advance by phone or by text message and arrange
22 to meet him. If the defendant was available he'd make the
23 sale. If not, he'd direct them to someone else in the crew.
24 Regardless of the method, the bottom line is this: If someone
25 wanted crack, the defendant and his crew sold it to them.

MAIQmial

Opening - Ms. Nicolas

1 That's what the evidence will prove.

2 Now, how will the evidence prove it? What types of
3 evidence will you see? Well, first, this is a case about a
4 crack cocaine crew. So you're going to see crack cocaine, a
5 lot of crack, and you'll see the small multicolored packages,
6 the capsules that this crew sold it in, the dozens and dozens
7 of the capsules that this defendant sold directly to the
8 undercover officer. You'll also see the hundreds of capsules
9 that were found in his car and on his person. And you'll see
10 the scales that were seized from the defendant's car: Four
11 small scales of the kind used to weigh drugs before
12 distribution, all of which will show you that this defendant
13 was no small-time drug dealer.

14 And because this is a conspiracy case, you'll also see
15 the drugs sold by other members of the crew, the hundreds of
16 the multicolored capsules that were sold to the undercover by
17 other members of the conspiracy, capsules that are identical in
18 appearance to those found in the defendant's pockets and in his
19 car. In addition to the capsules, you'll see the baggies and
20 the scales that were seized from other members of the crew, as
21 well as the crack that was seized from those other members,
22 including from the apartment of one of the crew's bosses, along
23 with the tools that the crew used to cook the crack, which is
24 to prepare it for sale on the street.

25 In addition to a lot of physical evidence, you're also

MAIQmial

Opening - Ms. Nicolas

1 going to see a lot of video. On that video, you will watch
2 this man sell drugs in the middle of the day right out in the
3 open. You're going to see his face. You're going to hear his
4 voice over and over and over again, almost 20 times selling
5 crack directly to the undercover officer. You're going to see
6 those capsules in his hands. You're going to watch him work
7 with his co-conspirators, and you're going to hear him talk
8 about the crack business. You will actually see users lined up
9 in front of him so that he can serve them back to back.

10 You're also going to see phone evidence. You're going
11 to read the text messages between the defendant and the
12 undercover officer, text messages in which he set up sales and
13 directed the undercover to other members of the crew. And you
14 will see his call logs, call logs that show his communications
15 with his customers and with his co-conspirators, including one
16 of the members of the crew who was arrested while in possession
17 of over 500 grams of crack cocaine.

18 And there will be witness testimony. You're going to
19 hear from one law enforcement officer who watched days of
20 stationary surveillance camera footage that captured just one
21 small slice of sidewalk occupied by this crew.

22 You're going to hear from the laboratory techs who
23 tested the crack that was seized from the defendant and from
24 his co-conspirators.

25 And you'll hear from the undercover himself. He's

MAIQmial

Opening - Ms. Nicolas

1 going to explain to you how he personally bought crack from
2 this crew on almost 70 occasions. He's going to talk to you
3 about how law enforcement builds a long-term investigation into
4 a drug trafficking organization like the defendant's crew, the
5 risky and sophisticated operations that go into understanding
6 the relationship between drug dealers, their bosses and their
7 customers. He's going to explain to you about how he
8 interacted with the crew and how he went about purchasing
9 crack. He's going to talk to you about the money that's
10 involved in these transactions, and he'll tell you about the
11 relationship he built with other individuals in Times Square,
12 those addicted to narcotics, those whose lives are consumed by
13 this dangerous drug.

14 Over the next few days, you're going to see a lot of
15 evidence. Each piece of evidence, each witness is one small
16 part of the story of this crew. At the end of this trial,
17 we'll have another chance to talk to you about how it all fits
18 together and prove each of the charges against the defendant
19 beyond a reasonable doubt. Between now and then I will ask you
20 to do three things:

21 First, pay careful attention to the evidence as it
22 comes in.

23 Second, listen carefully to Judge Engelmayer's
24 instructions on the law.

25 And, third, use your common sense, the same common

MAIQmial

Opening - Mr. McGuinness

1 sense that you use to make important decisions in your lives
2 every day.

3 If you do those three things, you will come to the
4 only conclusion that's consistent with the evidence, the law
5 and your common sense: The defendant, Davon Mial, is guilty.

6 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Nicolas.

7 Mr. McGuinness.

8 MR. McGUINNESS: We all remember where we were in the
9 spring of 2020. It was a difficult time for everyone:
10 Emotionally, mentally, physically, and financially, the global
11 Covid crisis was hitting the entire world, and it was hitting
12 New York especially hard. Many of us hit our low points. And
13 those occurred in a number of different ways.

14 You're going to get a glimpse of Davon Mial at this
15 period. You're going to see him in the depth of the Covid
16 pandemic, and I ask you to keep that in mind. You're going to
17 see there's five charges against Davon for selling crack
18 cocaine. The crack was sold in increments of grams or even
19 fractions of grams. But the government isn't going to stop
20 there. The government is going to tell you that he should be
21 held responsible for a conspiracy of hundreds and hundreds,
22 maybe even thousands, of grams. This is a conspiracy count.
23 This is the count that I'm going to ask you to pay particular
24 attention to and keep in your mind as this trial moves forward.

25 A conspiracy, as you're going to learn, is an

MAIQmial

Opening - Mr. McGuinness

1 agreement between two or more people to do something. It
2 requires an agreement. You're not going to see or hear or read
3 anything in which Davon made an agreement with anyone else.
4 You may see him standing next to people. You may hear that he
5 made phone calls to people. But that's not against the law.
6 That doesn't make a conspiracy, simply being next to someone.

7 You're going to be asked to make a lot of assumptions,
8 and you're going to hear about a lot of assumptions that more
9 people made. I am asking you, please do not make those
10 assumptions. Stick to the proof beyond a reasonable doubt.
11 That's the standard here. Don't draw any conclusions unless
12 the facts that you're looking at to draw that conclusion are
13 each proven beyond a reasonable doubt. I'm going to ask you,
14 ladies and gentlemen, to hold Davon Mial responsible for what
15 Davon Mial did, and that's it. That's what we're here for.

16 Now, as we go through this trial, it's my job to be
17 very critical of the government's case, and I'm going to do
18 that, and I ask that you do that as well. You hold them to
19 their really high standard. And noticing what you hear and the
20 evidence that comes in can be just as important as what you
21 don't hear, the evidence that doesn't come in, what wasn't
22 done, what could have presented the full picture. All of the
23 burden here is on the government. The government has to prove
24 every element of every offense, everything beyond a reasonable
25 doubt. Davon has no burden whatsoever, nothing. He doesn't

MAIQmial

Opening - Mr. McGuinness

1 have to do a thing. That's our system. That is his right.

2 And I thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen, for
3 your jury service. Juries often don't get thanked enough.
4 This is an incredible disruption of your lives, but it's an
5 incredibly important one. This case is incredibly important to
6 Davon, and I know that you're going to do this properly and
7 live up to your oath.

8 And it's not an easy thing to do. It can be very
9 rewarding serving jury duty, but it's not an easy thing to do
10 if you're doing it correctly. It's not easy because it
11 requires a level of scrutiny we don't usually use in our lives.
12 It's not like watching a documentary where you can talk to some
13 of us during the panel, if you like to watch documentaries or
14 true crime, where you can form opinions quickly and see the
15 evidence that matches your opinions. This isn't going to be
16 like that.

17 You can't let it wash over you. Please, engage with
18 every single piece of evidence that comes in. Turn it over.
19 See if it holds up to scrutiny. And as I mentioned, don't make
20 assumptions. Don't draw conclusions simply because you're
21 being asked to draw them.

22 The government asks you to use your every day common
23 sense. I absolutely want you to bring your common sense to
24 this trial, but there's a type of common sense we use every day
25 to make little decisions throughout our day that aren't very

MAIQmial

Opening - Mr. McGuinness

1 consequential. We make these snap judgments very easily.
2 There's another level of common sense and critical decision
3 making that I want you to use here. Sometimes we're faced with
4 these critical decisions in our lives, and you know these
5 decisions. They're all different in all of our lives, but
6 whether it's to make a medical decision for a loved one or
7 another decision for someone in your family, you know these
8 decisions; that you pour over every single detail; you agonize
9 over. We've all had them. That's the level of common sense
10 that I want you to bring to this trial, and I know you will.
11 Jury duty isn't easy.

12 Another thing that I want to speak about for a minute
13 is the presumption of innocence because that is also not easy.
14 We may all take it for granted what that is, and the judge has
15 mentioned it and instructed as well, but it's not something we
16 do outside this courtroom. Let's be honest. Okay? You see on
17 the news that someone's been arrested. What's your first
18 thought? It's usually, "What did they do," right? We don't
19 apply the presumption of innocence. We don't think that person
20 is innocent. They were arrested, but they're innocent. That's
21 okay outside of this courtroom. That's fine. But not here.
22 This is too important. This is too important for Davon's life.
23 So I ask that you really make that effort and do that work of
24 maintaining the fact that Davon is innocent as he sits there
25 throughout this trial.

MAIQmial

Opening - Mr. McGuinness

1 Ladies and gentlemen, thank you again for your time
2 and your service here. I'm going to get one more chance at the
3 end of this to speak to you. And when I come back, I'm going
4 to have more to say, but I'm going to ask you the same thing I
5 already asked you: Hold Davon Mial responsible only for what
6 Davon Mial did. Thank you.

7 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. McGuinness.

8 Government please call your first witness.

9 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government calls Dennis
10 Frey.

11 (Continued on next page)
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MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 DENNIS FREY,

2 called as a witness by the Plaintiff,

3 having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

4 THE COURT: Good morning, Detective Frey.

5 THE WITNESS: Good morning, Judge.

6 THE COURT: Keep your voice up. This is an old
7 courtroom with funny acoustics. So it would be best to speak
8 loudly.

9 THE WITNESS: Okay.

10 THE COURT: Counsel, you may inquire.

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. BHATIA:

13 Q. Where do you currently work?

14 A. I work at One Police Plaza, the chief detective's office.

15 Q. What's your title there?

16 A. I'm a physical officer for NYPD Detective Bureau.

17 Q. In August of 2021, what was your title?

18 A. I was a detective investigator assigned to Manhattan South
19 Narcotics.

20 Q. Did you work in a particular zone?

21 A. Yeah. At that time, we were in the west side module. We
22 covered the west side -- precincts in the west side of
23 Manhattan.

24 Q. What were your day-to-day responsibilities as a detective
25 in the narcotics bureau?

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 A. Investigating complaints of narcotics sales, narcotics use
2 in the confines of Manhattan South.

3 Q. As a detective, have you personally searched vehicles?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Approximately how many times?

6 A. At least 100.

7 Q. After a particular vehicle is seized, are there places
8 where the search can be performed?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Where are those places?

11 A. Sometimes initial searches can be done in the street. Most
12 of the times, it's back at a police facility, precinct.

13 Q. What do you mean "on the street"?

14 A. At an arrest location or a location where a vehicle is
15 seized from. But most likely, an inventory search would be
16 done at a police facility.

17 Q. How do you record the items that are found during the
18 search of a vehicle?

19 A. Generally, it would be one detective or one officer
20 searching the vehicle while another officer or detective is
21 recording what was recovered from the vehicle.

22 Q. What happens after the items are recovered?

23 A. After the items are recovered, they're vouchered on -- we
24 have -- it's called the PET system in the NYPD, and it's --
25 they're placed in bags with distinct numbers that are

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 particular to that item. There are also voucher numbers
2 generated that's particular to that item, and they're sealed
3 and stored away.

4 Q. Detective Frey, I want to direct your attention to
5 August 9, 2021. Were you involved in a vehicle search on that
6 date?

7 A. Yes, I was.

8 Q. And what vehicle did you search?

9 A. That was a gray Honda Accord.

10 Q. What was the license plate of that vehicle?

11 A. I don't remember off the top of my head.

12 Q. Is there anything that might help you recall the license
13 plate number of the vehicle?

14 A. Sure. Paperwork from that day or vouchers pertaining to
15 that vehicle.

16 Q. Mr. Foley, can you publish for the witness only the
17 document marked as Government Exhibit -- excuse me. As
18 3516-064.

19 Detective Frey, please review this record and look up
20 at me when you're finished.

21 Mr. Foley, you can take down the page. Thank you.

22 Detective Frey, now that you've reviewed that item,
23 can you testify from your memory about the license plate
24 number?

25 A. Yes. After looking at that, the license plate number is,

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 KLN9116.

2 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, I'd like to read into
3 evidence a stipulation between the parties.

4 THE COURT: You may. Let me just briefly explain to
5 the jury what a stipulation is.

6 I had mentioned yesterday that there were several
7 types of evidence that were proper for you to consider. One of
8 them is a stipulation. A stipulation is simply an agreement
9 between the parties that certain facts are true. If the
10 parties stipulate that certain facts are true, you must take
11 those facts as true. But as with all facts, it's for you, the
12 jury, to decide what weight, if any, you give to that evidence.

13 Go ahead.

14 MR. BHATIA: "It is hereby stipulated and agreed by
15 and between the United States of America, by Damian Williams,
16 United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York,
17 that Kedar S. Bhatia and Ashley C. Nicolas, assistant United
18 States attorneys, of counsel, and Davon Mial, the defendant, by
19 his attorney, Daniel A. McGuinness, Esq., that:

20 If called to testify at trial, a witness from the New
21 York State Department of Motor Vehicles would testify that,
22 prior to and on August 9, 2021, the gray Honda Accord with New
23 York license plate KLN9116 and vehicle identification number
24 1GCB1F38LA012757 was registered to Davon Mial.

25 It is further stipulated and agreed that this

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 stipulation may be received as an exhibit at trial."

2 THE COURT: What is the exhibit number of the
3 stipulation?

4 MR. BHATIA: Exhibit No. 2003.

5 The government offers stipulation 2003 into evidence.

6 THE COURT: Any objection?

7 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

8 THE COURT: All right. Exhibit 2003 is received.

9 (Government Exhibit 2003 received in evidence)

10 BY MR. BHATIA:

11 Q. So, Detective Frey, where did you search this vehicle?

12 A. In the parking lot at the Midtown South Precinct.

13 Q. Why did you search this vehicle?

14 A. In relation to the case and the arrest that were taking
15 place that day.

16 Q. What authorization did you have to search the vehicle?

17 A. There was -- a court signed a search warrant.

18 Q. Detective Frey, you have in front of you a box with various
19 items. It's to your right. Can you please remove from that
20 box the item marked for identification purposes as Government
21 Exhibit 904?

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. Do you recognize that item?

24 A. Yes, I do.

25 Q. At a high level, what is it?

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 A. This is a green camouflage bag that was recovered from the
2 gray Honda Accord that day.

3 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government moves to admit
4 Government Exhibit 904.

5 THE COURT: Any objection?

6 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

7 THE COURT: Received.

8 (Government Exhibit 904 received in evidence)

9 BY MR. BHATIA:

10 Q. Detective Frey, can you please hold up Exhibit 904 for the
11 jury and describe what's in this evidence bag?

12 A. This is the green camouflage-colored Supreme bag.

13 Q. Why did you recover this bag from the vehicle?

14 A. This was in the rear of the vehicle. Like I said, any time
15 we seize a vehicle, we not only search for arrest evidence, but
16 we also have to do a complete inventory search of the vehicle.
17 So everything that's inside that vehicle has to be removed.

18 Q. Detective Frey, did you ultimately open up that bag to see
19 what was inside?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Detective Frey, can you remove from the box to your left
22 the item marked as Government Exhibit 907?

23 Detective Frey, do you recognize that item?

24 A. Yes, I do.

25 Q. What is that item?

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 A. These are items that were recovered from inside that green
2 Supreme bag. There are plastic vials and also small like
3 plastic capsules.

4 Q. Did you personally recover those items?

5 A. Yes.

6 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government offers
7 Government Exhibit 907 into evidence.

8 THE COURT: Any objection?

9 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

10 THE COURT: Received.

11 (Government Exhibit 907 received in evidence)

12 BY MR. BHATIA:

13 Q. Detective Frey, can you hold up that bag and describe the
14 contents for the jury?

15 A. Sure. Canisters in baggies containing plastic bottles of
16 different colors. There's larger plastic bottles here.

17 Q. Can you describe the vials in that bag?

18 A. I'm sorry?

19 Q. Can you describe what the vials are like?

20 A. They're small, like I said, plastic, all different colors,
21 like a pop top.

22 Q. What are the different colors of the vials?

23 A. There's orange, green, purple, there's larger clear ones,
24 and pink also.

25 Q. Do the capsules appear to be empty or do they appear to

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 have something in them?

2 A. These appear to be empty.

3 Q. And, Detective Frey, why did you recover those capsules
4 from the vehicle?

5 A. Well, like I said, everything that's in the car that we're
6 searching is inventoried. These were vouchered as arrest
7 evidence. Felt that they pertained to the case. These are
8 commonly used for the sale of narcotics, packaging and sale of
9 narcotics. And also, throughout the case, this is -- the
10 narcotics that were purchased were normally packaged in these
11 type of materials.

12 Q. Detective Frey, can you remove from the box Government
13 Exhibit 905 marked for identification purposes only?

14 Detective Frey, do you recognize that item?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. At a high level, what is it?

17 A. This is a small, yellow, plastic capsule that was
18 containing crack cocaine.

19 Q. Did you personally seize that item?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And from where did you seize that item?

22 A. This was also from within that Supreme bag.

23 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government offers GX 905
24 into evidence.

25 THE COURT: Any objection?

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 MR. MCGUINNESS: Can I just see the physical exhibit
2 for a minute?

3 THE COURT: Of course.

4 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

5 THE COURT: It's received.

6 (Government Exhibit 905 received in evidence)

7 BY MR. BHATIA:

8 Q. Detective Frey, can you hold up that item for the jury?

9 It's far away, so can you describe it?

10 A. It's just a small, yellow, plastic capsule.

11 Q. And why did you recover that item?

12 A. While doing the inventory search, everything is recovered.
13 And also, because this was pertaining to the case, I believe
14 there was narcotics with the same packaging we've been seeing
15 throughout this case, and same narcotics.

16 Q. Detective Frey, can you remove from the box Government
17 Exhibit 902 marked for identification purposes?

18 Do you recognize that item?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. How do you recognize it?

21 A. This was a small, brown, leather-type bag that was also
22 recovered from that gray Honda Accord.

23 Q. Did you search that item in connection with the vehicle
24 search?

25 A. Yes, I did.

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government offers GX 902
2 into evidence.

3 THE COURT: Any objection?

4 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

5 THE COURT: Received.

6 (Government Exhibit 902 received in evidence)

7 BY MR. BHATIA:

8 Q. Detective Frey, can you hold up that bag? Can you describe
9 what that is?

10 A. A small, brown, leather bag that was recovered from inside
11 that gray Honda.

12 Q. Did you personally recover it from the Honda or did you
13 only later search it?

14 A. I searched it after it was recovered by another member of
15 my team.

16 Q. Describe that process.

17 A. At this time, we were both searching the car, so he had
18 removed the bag from the vehicle and had given it to me to
19 further search the contents of the bag.

20 Q. And once a vehicle is removed from -- once an item is
21 removed from a vehicle, where does it go?

22 A. Like I said, we were searching at the Midtown South
23 Precinct, so whatever we removed from the vehicle would be
24 brought into the precinct and items would be vouchered in the
25 computer inside the precinct.

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 Q. Detective Frey, can you remove from the box next to you the
2 item marked for identification purposes as GX 903?

3 Do you recognize that item?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. At a high level, what is it?

6 A. This was an electronic scale and also a small tray that was
7 removed from inside of that brown bag.

8 Q. How do you recognize that item?

9 A. It's the items that I recovered from the brown bag.

10 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government offers GX 903.

11 THE COURT: Any objection?

12 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

13 THE COURT: Received.

14 (Government Exhibit 903 received in evidence)

15 BY MR. BHATIA:

16 Q. Detective Frey, can you hold up that evidence bag and
17 describe its contents?

18 A. This would be the electric scale to the left, and then this
19 small Backwoods tray on the right.

20 Q. Can you point again to the electric scale and describe it,
21 please?

22 A. It's just a small, black in color, electric scale.

23 Q. Why did you recover a scale from the bag?

24 A. Like I said, all items are recovered and accounted for.

25 And additionally, electric scales like this are commonly used

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Direct

1 in the sale and packaging of narcotics.

2 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, may I approach the witness?

3 THE COURT: You may.

4 Q. Detective Frey, I'm handing you what's been marked as
5 Government Exhibits 902P, 903P, 904P, 905P, and 907P.

6 Can you take a look at those and look up at me when
7 you're finished?

8 Detective Frey, do you recognize those photographs?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. How do you recognize them?

11 A. These are photographs of the items that I recovered and
12 vouchered from the vehicle.

13 Q. Were those all the items that were recovered from the
14 vehicle or just the ones that you recovered?

15 A. These are definitely the items that I recovered. I don't
16 know off the top of my head what else was recovered and
17 vouchered, if anything.

18 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government offers GX
19 902P, 903P, 904P, 905P, and 907P.

20 THE COURT: Any objection?

21 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

22 THE COURT: Received.

23 (Government Exhibits 902P-905P and 907P received in
24 evidence)

25 MR. BHATIA: Mr. Foley, can you please publish for the

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Cross

1 jury Government Exhibit 904P.

2 BY MR. BHATIA:

3 Q. Detective Frey, what is this item?

4 A. That's the green Supreme bag.

5 Q. Is this a photograph of the item that you testified about
6 previously?

7 A. Yes.

8 MR. BHATIA: Mr. Foley, can you please publish for the
9 jury Government Exhibit 907P?

10 Q. Detective Frey, what does this photograph show?

11 A. These were the plastic vials recovered from inside the
12 Supreme bag.

13 Q. And were these the photographs that you just testified
14 about?

15 A. Yes.

16 MR. BHATIA: Mr. Foley, can you please publish for the
17 jury Government Exhibit 903P?

18 Q. And what does this item show, Detective Frey?

19 A. This was the scale and tray that were recovered inside that
20 brown bag.

21 MR. BHATIA: No further questions, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Cross-examination?

23 CROSS-EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. MCGUINNESS:

25 Q. Good morning.

MAI7MIA2

Frey - Cross

1 A. Good morning.

2 Q. Now, you mentioned that there were capsules and vials
3 recovered in the items that you found?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And you said that the capsules were similar to the
6 narcotics transactions that you were investigating, right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. These are narcotics transactions around Times Square?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And, in fact, there was an undercover making purchases
11 around Times Square as part of your investigation, right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And he purchased crack, and sometimes it was received in
14 capsules, right?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Sometimes it was received in vials, right?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. There are occasions when it was received in a plastic
19 twist, right?

20 A. I don't recall plastic twists.

21 Q. There are occasions where he received crack cocaine in a
22 Ziploc baggy, right?

23 A. Couldn't say for sure if there was or wasn't.

24 Q. So you're not sure if he received crack cocaine purchased
25 in all of those different variety of ways throughout this

MAI7MIA2

Taveras - Direct

1 investigation?

2 A. Off the top of my head, no.

3 MR. MCGUINNESS: Nothing further.

4 THE COURT: All right. Any redirect?

5 MR. BHATIA: No, your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. Detective Frey, you may step
7 down. Your testimony is complete. Thank you.

8 (Witness excused)

9 THE COURT: Government, please call your next witness.

10 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government calls José
11 Taveras.

12 JOSÉ TAVERAS,

13 called as a witness by the Plaintiff,

14 having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

15 THE COURT: Thank you. Please be seated.

16 All right. Good morning, Detective Taveras.

17 THE WITNESS: Good morning, everyone.

18 THE COURT: I'm going to ask you to speak slowly and
19 distinctly and keep your voice up so that it could be heard in
20 the large courtroom.

21 THE WITNESS: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Go ahead, counsel.

23 DIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. BHATIA:

25 Q. Where do you currently work?

MAI7MIA2

Taveras - Direct

1 A. I work at Manhattan South Narcotics.

2 Q. And what is your title there?

3 A. Investigator.

4 Q. And do you work in any particular zone?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What zone do you work in?

7 A. Manhattan South, which is the Lower East Side all the way
8 up to 57th Street, Manhattan.

9 Q. What is your rank at the NYPD?

10 A. I'm a detective.

11 Q. Detective Taveras, how long have you been with the NYPD?

12 A. Approximately 14 years.

13 Q. And what are your day-to-day responsibilities as a
14 detective?

15 A. As a detective, I'm an investigator. Usually my supervisor
16 will assign cases, which is complaints from 911. We go through
17 real-time crime and we proceed with investigation on narcotics
18 complaints.

19 THE COURT: Could you keep your voice up a bit? Thank
20 you.

21 Q. Detective Taveras, when you search a vehicle, how do you
22 record the items that are found during a search?

23 A. Usually when we do a search of vehicle, we itemize. We
24 number each item found for arrest evidence.

25 Q. And do you prepare any sort of document associated with

MAI7MIA2

Taveras - Direct

1 each item that's recovered?

2 A. Yes. We prepare a voucher, which is an invoice, itemizing
3 each item found that is going to be used for arrest evidence.

4 Q. Detective Taveras, I want to direct your attention to
5 August 9, 2021. Were you involved in a vehicle search on that
6 date?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What vehicle did you search?

9 A. It was a gray Honda Accord.

10 Q. And did you search the vehicle with anyone else?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Who else?

13 A. Detective Frey.

14 Q. And why did you search that vehicle?

15 A. This vehicle was searched -- we had a -- the arresting
16 officer had a search warrant for the vehicle, and I conducted a
17 search at the station house to look for evidence in regards to
18 the case.

19 Q. To whom did the vehicle belong?

20 A. Mr. Davon Mial.

21 Q. Detective Taveras, where did you search the vehicle?

22 A. I searched the vehicle, the lungeable area, front lungeable
23 area inside the glove compartment, and in the back seat of the
24 vehicle.

25 Q. Detective Taveras, there's a box just to your left. Could

MAI7MIA2

Taveras - Direct

1 you remove from that box the item marked as Government Exhibit
2 901?

3 You can put the other item back in the box.

4 Detective Taveras, do you recognize Government Exhibit
5 901?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. How do you recognize it?

8 A. These are the items that I searched and I found in the
9 glove compartment of the vehicle. These are --

10 Q. Detective Taveras, before you describe it, I just have a
11 few more questions.

12 Did you personally seize those items from the vehicle?

13 A. Yes.

14 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government offers into
15 evidence GX 901.

16 THE COURT: Any objection?

17 MR. MCGUINNESS: Can I just see the items, please?

18 THE COURT: Of course.

19 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

20 THE COURT: Received.

21 (Government Exhibit 901 received in evidence)

22 BY MR. BHATIA:

23 Q. Detective Taveras, can you now hold up the evidence bag for
24 the jury and describe what's inside?

25 A. Inside this bag you have four scales and one label maker

MAI7MIA2

Taveras - Direct

1 found in the vehicle.

2 Q. Can you describe some of the scales?

3 A. These are the scales and this is the label maker.

4 Q. Where in the vehicle did you find those items?

5 A. It was inside the glove compartment.

6 Q. You mean the passenger's glove compartment or the one in
7 the middle?

8 A. The passenger's glove compartment.

9 Q. Why did you recover the scales from the vehicle?

10 A. This is -- based on my experience in narcotics, when we
11 found these items, it's more like to weigh narcotics.

12 Q. And why did you recover the label maker?

13 A. The label maker also was by the scales, which is -- the
14 label maker is used to label the narcotics.

15 MR. MCGUINNESS: Objection.

16 THE COURT: Just a moment, ladies and gentlemen.

17 Would you read back the answer, please?

18 (Record read)

19 THE COURT: Overruled.

20 BY MR. BHATIA:

21 Q. Detective Taveras, can you remove from the box to your left
22 Government Exhibit 902?

23 Detective Taveras, do you recognize that item?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. At a high level, what is it?

MAI7MIA2

Taveras - Cross

1 A. It's a bag, it's a brown bag.

2 Q. And how do you recognize that item?

3 A. It was found in the back seat of the vehicle.

4 Q. Did you find the item in the vehicle?

5 A. Yes.

6 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government offers GX 902
7 into evidence.

8 THE COURT: Any objection?

9 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

10 THE COURT: Received.

11 (Government Exhibit 902 received in evidence)

12 BY MR. BHATIA:

13 Q. Detective Taveras, can you hold up that bag and describe it
14 for the jury?

15 A. This is a brown bag found in the back seat of the vehicle.

16 Q. And why did you recover that item?

17 A. I recovered the bag -- usually, this bag is for putting
18 narcotics inside, based on our experience.

19 Q. After you recovered that from the vehicle, what did you do
20 with it next?

21 A. I brought it back to the base for arrest evidence.

22 MR. BHATIA: No further questions, your Honor.

23 THE COURT: All right. Cross-examination.

24 CROSS-EXAMINATION

25 BY MR. MCGUINNESS:

MAI7MIA2

Taveras - Redirect

1 Q. Good morning.

2 A. Good morning.

3 Q. Detective, you said you did this search with another
4 officer?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Were you searching the vehicle at the same time?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Do you have a specific recollection of searching this
9 vehicle?

10 A. Yes, I do.

11 Q. And the items that you testified you just recovered from
12 the vehicle, are you certain that you were the one who
13 recovered them?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Where was the vehicle located when you conducted this
16 search?

17 A. The vehicle was located in the rear of the basement of the
18 precinct of Midtown South.

19 Q. Inside of the garage?

20 A. Inside the garage.

21 MR. MCGUINNESS: No further questions.

22 THE COURT: All right. Any redirect?

23 MR. BHATIA: Yes, your Honor.

24 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

25 BY MR. BHATIA:

MAI7MIA2

Taveras - Redirect

1 Q. Detective Taveras, I just wanted to ask you two follow-up
2 questions that I didn't ask you on the direct examination.

3 Mr. Foley, can you display for the witness only
4 Government Exhibit 901P.

5 Detective Taveras, do you recognize this document?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. What is it?

8 MR. MCGUINNESS: Objection to scope, your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Mr. Bhatia, I take it you inadvertently
10 failed to elicit the photograph during direct?

11 MR. BHATIA: That's right.

12 THE COURT: All right. In an exercise of discretion,
13 I'll permit it. I take the spirit of the objection, but I'll
14 permit it.

15 Q. Do you recognize this item?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. At a high level, what is it?

18 A. It's the items -- it's the scales and items found in the
19 vehicle.

20 Q. Does it depict the evidence you testified about earlier?

21 A. Yes.

22 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, the government offers GX 901P
23 into evidence.

24 THE COURT: Any objection?

25 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

MAI7MIA2

1 THE COURT: Received.

2 (Government Exhibit 901P received in evidence)

3 BY MR. BHATIA:

4 Q. Mr. Foley, can you display for the witness only Government
5 Exhibit 902P.

6 Detective Taveras, do you recognize this item?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What is it?

9 A. It's the brown bag found in the vehicle.

10 MR. BHATIA: Your Honor, this one is in evidence
11 already, so no further questions.

12 THE COURT: All right. Any recross?

13 MR. MCGUINNESS: No, your Honor.

14 THE COURT: All right. You may step down.

15 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

16 (Witness excused)

17 THE COURT: Can I just briefly see counsel at the
18 sidebar.

19 (Continued on next page)

MAI7MIA2

(At sidebar)

THE COURT: We appear to be making quicker progress than may have been anticipated. We're now up to the undercover, correct?

MS. NICOLAS: Yes.

THE COURT: So I'm going to take a 15-minute break and just explain that I have to take care of some matters.

When we get -- you know what, I'll excuse the jury and then we'll take care of the mechanics.

MS. NICOLAS: All right.

(Continued on next page)

MAI7MIA2

1 (In open court)

2 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, there's a matter I
3 need to attend to, so we're going to take a somewhat earlier
4 mid-morning break now than I usually do. As you'll see, my
5 usual practice is to do it around 11. This is a convenient and
6 good time for me to do it, though. So we'll take a 15-minute
7 comfort break. And when you come back in, we'll resume with
8 the next witness's testimony.

9 As always, please don't discuss the case.

10 THE DEPUTY CLERK: All rise.

11 (Jury not present)

12 THE COURT: All right. Be seated.

13 Mr. McGuinness, your objection was well taken to the
14 scope of the redirect. It was clearly just inadvertent that
15 the photograph wasn't put in. It seemed to me, in the interest
16 of clarity, it made sense to get the photograph in, and there
17 was no harm in permitting limited few questions beyond the
18 scope. But as a formal matter, I understand where you were
19 going.

20 All right. So with that, as soon as the jury is in I
21 want the undercover and the sign on the door.

22 Who is doing that?

23 MS. NICOLAS: So Mr. Foley will be placing the sign on
24 the door. We have an additional undergraduate intern from our
25 office who is going to stand outside. Mr. Otero is headed to

MAI7MIA2

1 the satellite room. And the undercover is crossing the bridge
2 to come be sworn in.

3 THE COURT: All right. So why don't you put the
4 undercover in my witness room now. I'll be down in 5 minutes
5 to swear in the undercover.

6 Anything else that we need to attend to?

7 MS. NICOLAS: Just a few other mechanics, your Honor.

8 We do have a transcript binder with 18 transcripts of
9 portions of the conversations that are captured on video.
10 We've spoken to Mr. Smallman about placing those under the
11 jury's seats before they come back.

12 THE COURT: Do you have a copy for the Court?

13 MS. NICOLAS: We have a copy for the Court, the court
14 reporter, and your clerk. We will hand those out as well.

15 We also spoke to Mr. Smallman last night anticipating
16 using a large velcro board, as well as a map, and understand
17 that we will be setting these up kind of in this area of the
18 well during the break.

19 THE COURT: Okay. That stage management all sounds
20 right. I mean, I take it the judgment was that it's just
21 easier for them to review the transcript in the binders than to
22 leaning forward in pairs looking at the small screen?

23 MS. NICOLAS: I think that's right, your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Yes. It's a blast from the past. That's
25 the way it was done decades ago. I've more often seen it on

MAI7MIA2

1 the screens, but I think that makes good sense.

2 Any instructions I need to give them, then, with
3 respect to the binder, including don't read ahead?

4 MS. NICOLAS: I think that's right, your Honor. I
5 would ask that you instruct them to leave those binders under
6 their seats until they're directed. The binders are tabbed, so
7 we can direct them to the appropriate tab.

8 THE COURT: So as soon as they come in, I should
9 notify them that there are binders under their seats, do not
10 access them now. And when they first access them, I will
11 admonish them to stick with the tab in question.

12 I expect that during the examination you, rather than
13 me, will be the one saying, Members of the jury, you should now
14 turn to whatever the next tab. I don't need to get involved in
15 that choreography.

16 MS. NICOLAS: Exactly.

17 THE COURT: All right. In terms of where the easel or
18 the exhibit will be, I take it it will be essentially back and
19 to the right of the government table?

20 MS. NICOLAS: Where Special Agent Renz was sitting
21 earlier, we're going to place it there. I think that will be a
22 sufficient space. And we'll be asking your Honor's permission
23 to have the witness step down to place things onto the board
24 during his testimony.

25 THE COURT: Very good.

MAI7MIA2

1 Mr. McGuinness, I take it no issue with any of those
2 logistics?

3 MR. MCGUINNESS: No issues.

4 THE COURT: All right. Good. I appreciate that
5 everyone is on top of everything.

6 Let's have the undercover in the witness room in five
7 minutes. I'll be in my robing room, and Mr. Smallman will come
8 get the witness and counsel for the oath.

9 Thank you.

10 THE DEPUTY CLERK: All rise.

11 (Recess; page 101 sealed)

12 (Continued on next page)

MAIQmia3

(In open court; jury not present)

THE COURT: I just want to make sure we're all set up.
Can I bring the jury out in a moment?

MS. NICOLAS: We're checking the door right now, but I
believe we'll be all right.

THE COURT: The binders are under the seats? All
right. Very good. I will admonish the jury once they take
their seats.

(Jury present)

THE COURT: To begin, I apologize for taking more time
than I forecasted. The good news is that it allowed me to work
out some logistical issues with counsel which should have the
effect of making things move more efficiently as we go through
the day.

You'll notice, but do not take, that each of you has a
binder under your seat. Do not pick it up right now. Later on
I'm told during the examination there will be occasion for you
to consult the binder and follow along as counsel will direct
turning to specific tabs, but you should all have one under
your seats.

With that, counsel, please call your next witness.

MS. NICOLAS: Yes, your Honor. The United States
called Detective Ed Murphy.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 ED MURPHY,

2 called as a witness by the Government,

3 having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

4 DEPUTY CLERK: Thank you. Please be seated, speak
5 into the mic as best you can. Please state and spell your full
6 name.

7 THE WITNESS: Detective Ed Murphy. Murphy common
8 spelling.

9 THE COURT: Spell your name, please.

10 THE WITNESS: M-U-R-P-H Y.

11 THE COURT: Good morning, Detective Murphy. I'll ask
12 you to speak loudly and distinctly so you can be heard in this
13 old and acoustically challenging courtroom.

14 DIRECT EXAMINATION

15 BY MS. NICOLAS:

16 Q. Good morning, Detective Murphy. Where do you currently
17 work?

18 A. Manhattan South Narcotics.

19 Q. Is that part of the NYPD?

20 A. Yes, it is.

21 Q. Within Manhattan South Narcotics, do you work for any
22 particular unit?

23 A. I do.

24 Q. What unit is that?

25 A. I work for the team that covers the west side of Manhattan.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. When you say "the west side of Manhattan," can you describe
2 exactly where you're talking about?

3 A. If you were to split Manhattan in half from right to left,
4 I work on the west side, which is the left side if you're
5 looking from north to south.

6 Q. Is that one precinct?

7 A. No. I work multiple precincts.

8 Q. What precincts do you cover?

9 A. We cover the 6 precinct, the 10 precinct, the 14 precinct,
10 Manhattan North, 18 precinct, but I also will work in every
11 other precinct with the other teams as well.

12 Q. How long have you been a member of the NYPD?

13 A. For the last 18 years.

14 Q. What is your current rank?

15 A. Detective second grade.

16 Q. Can you describe what it means to be a detective second
17 grade?

18 A. When you get promoted detective, from police officer to
19 detective, you're considered a third grade detective. This is
20 the vast majority of detectives in the New York City Police
21 Department. Approximately 10 to 15 percent of detectives will
22 ever be promoted to second grade. Then approximately 3 to
23 5 percent will ever be promoted to first grade, the highest
24 grade of detective.

25 Q. As a detective in Manhattan South Narcotics, what type of

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 crimes do you typically investigate?

2 A. We investigate drug crimes.

3 Q. Do you focus on any particular type of drug crime?

4 A. Mostly sales.

5 Q. Now, when you're investigating sales of drugs, do you have
6 any particular role in those investigations?

7 A. Yes. I am an undercover detective.

8 Q. What is an undercover?

9 A. An undercover is a term for the detective who goes out on
10 the streets and purchases narcotics. Then the other detectives
11 are the ones that do the investigations.

12 Q. You just mentioned a moment ago that as an undercover, you
13 purchase narcotics. Have you personally purchased narcotics as
14 an undercover?

15 A. Yes, I have.

16 Q. Approximately how many times?

17 A. Several thousand.

18 Q. Do you see anyone in this courtroom from whom you've
19 purchased drugs?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Who?

22 A. The individual with the bald head sitting at the back table
23 there.

24 Q. What name do you know him by?

25 A. I know him by Mr. Mial, also JD Smooth and JD Eyes.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, may the record reflect that
2 the witness has identified the defendant, Davon Mial, as an
3 individual from whom he's purchased narcotics.

4 THE COURT: The record will so reflect.

5 Q. How often did you purchase narcotics from this individual?

6 A. Approximately 17 times.

7 Q. Was that part of a larger investigation?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Where did those purchases, in general terms, take place?

10 A. They happened in the Times Square area, specifically around
11 8th Avenue and 43rd Street.

12 Q. You just identified the defendant as Davon Mial. Did he
13 ever tell you another name?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. What name did you know him by?

16 A. He told me to call him Smooth.

17 Q. Smooth. I'll turn back to specific of those investigations
18 in a bit, but, first, you mentioned awhile ago you're a
19 detective second grade in the NYPD. How long have you been
20 working undercover?

21 A. I've been an undercover detective the last 16 years.

22 Q. Can you tell the jury a little bit about the training that
23 you've received to work as an undercover?

24 A. Yes. 16 years ago, when I first became an undercover, I
25 went through a three-week training course where we went over

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 different type of drugs, different types of operations,
2 different types of equipment, how to operate safely, things of
3 that nature.

4 Q. Have you continued to receive training since your initial
5 entry onto the force?

6 A. Yes. All the way up until Covid, we did at least minimum
7 training every six months to refresh and to learn new things.

8 Q. Do you ever instruct other undercover officers?

9 A. Yes, I'm now one of the training officers who trains all
10 new undercovers that come into the New York City Police
11 Department.

12 Q. What are some of the topics that you provide instruction
13 on?

14 A. I give them instruction on different types of drugs,
15 different street terminologies. I also help them operate
16 safely. I will bring them out into the field and show them how
17 operations work.

18 Q. When you say that you instruct on different types of drugs,
19 can you describe to the jury what you mean?

20 A. Different types of drugs as in crystal meth, crack cocaine,
21 powder cocaine, fentanyl, different types of prescription
22 pills, heroin, all those types of drugs.

23 Q. We will come back to that in a moment.

24 Again, before getting into any specifics about this
25 case, I want to talk a little more generally about undercover

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 operations. Are there different types of undercover narcotics
2 investigations?

3 A. Yes, there is.

4 Q. Can you describe those different types for the jury?

5 A. There is two main types of operations. One is called
6 buy-and-bust operation, or B&B for short. This operation is a
7 short-term operation where we have no specific target. We
8 would just go to a location where we have community complaints
9 and attempt to purchase narcotics off of anyone that is
10 selling. If an individual sells to an undercover, a backup
11 field team will move in, apprehend, and arrest the individual.
12 The.

13 The other type of operations are long-term operations
14 or short-term operations. A short-term operation is a case buy
15 where you will buy multiple times from subjects, approximately
16 five times. And then the investigators once they have the
17 information they need, will take down the case.

18 Long-term operation, you will have go on for several
19 months up to several years where you will work to find a whole
20 organization to try and bring everything down.

21 Q. Are the goals different as it relates to a buy-and-bust
22 operation versus a case buy operation?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Can you just briefly describe what the goals are of those
25 respective different types of operations?

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 A. When you're doing buy-and-bust operations, you're normally
2 just getting the person off of the street, the street-level
3 person. You don't typically get the higher level people
4 involved in the operation.

5 During case buy operations, your goal is to either
6 move up on weight on how much drugs you're purchasing or to
7 find the other individuals that are involved in the
8 organization.

9 Q. In the course of a buy and bust, is it common to make
10 arrests?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. At what point?

13 A. After the undercover purchases drugs during a buy and bust,
14 he will leave the location. Another member of the field team
15 who is watching the location will radio transmissions to the
16 rest of the field team, will then move in and apprehend any
17 persons dealing with the undercover. At this point the
18 undercover will have an opportunity to view the individuals in
19 custody and let the field team know if they're the ones who
20 actually sold him or her narcotics.

21 Q. We'll come back to the mechanics of the field team in a
22 moment.

23 When you're talking about case buy, the longer term
24 operations, are quick arrest common in those operations?

25 A. No. The only time quick arrest is made during case buy

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 operation if the undercover's safety is in jeopardy.

2 Q. A moment ago you testified one of your goals is to move up
3 on weight. What does that mean?

4 A. Move up on weight is terminology for buying larger
5 quantities of narcotics. There are different levels of charges
6 for how many -- how much narcotics you're selling. So if
7 you're able to get a higher weight charged against somebody
8 during an operation, it's a good thing.

9 Q. When you're engaged in these type of undercover operations,
10 street-level operations, commonly how many law enforcement
11 personnel are involved?

12 A. We have a minimum of six field team members who are either
13 detectives or police officers, two undercovers, and one
14 supervisor, and that is the bare minimum to go out on the
15 street.

16 Q. Let's walk through each of those different roles. Can you
17 describe, beginning with the supervisor, what their role is
18 during an undercover operation?

19 A. The supervisor's job is to sit in a leader vehicle. He
20 will monitor radio transmissions and give any directions, if
21 needed, to place personnel where they might be best used.

22 Q. You said there are two undercovers involved. What are the
23 roles of those two undercovers?

24 A. The first undercover is a primary undercover, which I am,
25 who goes out and purchases narcotics. The second undercover,

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 it can be a prior undercover or an undercover that is still
2 active, and their job and their terminology is called a ghost.
3 What they do is they follow the primary undercover, and they
4 have a radio hidden on their person so that like I'm talking to
5 you today, you would never know I'm transmitting, and they will
6 radio to the rest of the field team of where the undercover is,
7 descriptions of individuals he's dealing with, and basically
8 they paint a picture for the field team.

9 Q. We'll come back to the ghost in a second.

10 You mentioned the field team a few times. What does
11 the field team do?

12 A. The field team is the other six detectives or police
13 officers that are out on the street. They are backup
14 individuals for the primary undercover. If he is in need of
15 help, they will move in and help him or if arrests need to be
16 made, they move in and make the arrests.

17 Q. Typically how far are they away from the undercover?

18 A. It depends on the case. Sometimes they're within a half a
19 block. But most of the time they're at least a block away.

20 Q. Now, you're talking about the ghost a second ago. Why is
21 that the name you use for that role, ghost?

22 A. They're supposed to be hidden. They're not supposed to be
23 noticed. So that's why they call them a ghost. It's just cop
24 terminology.

25 Q. What's the primary purpose of the ghost?

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 A. Their primary purpose is the undercover's safety. They are
2 the first ones there to see if something is going to happen bad
3 to the undercover or something bad is happening to the
4 undercover, and they are instructed to move in and help out the
5 primary undercover, as well as radio the field team.

6 Q. Prior to going out on the street, is there anything that
7 this group of law enforcement officers do to prepare for a
8 particular operation?

9 A. Yes. Before every operation, every member of the field
10 team that is going to be going on the street has to be present
11 in the clothes they're going to be wearing. We get together,
12 it's called a tactical meeting, tack plan meeting where we go
13 over the events of the day, what's going to happen. Equipment
14 is checked and handed out.

15 Q. Why is it important that they're wearing the clothing
16 they'll be wearing during the operation?

17 A. Because if something goes wrong and the undercover is in
18 need of help, when the investigators move in, sometimes
19 scenarios can be chaotic and you need to know that the
20 investigators know exactly who the undercovers are.

21 Q. You say that you operate as a primary undercover. What
22 does that mean?

23 A. The primary undercover is our term for the purchasing
24 undercover, the undercover whose job it is to be out purchasing
25 narcotics.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. So in advance of these operations, is there anything that
2 you do to personally prepare to go out as the primary
3 undercover?

4 A. I check money that's given to me. I count the money that's
5 given to me by the leader so I know exactly how much money I
6 have on me. I make sure I'm dressed appropriately, and I check
7 my firearm.

8 Q. What do you mean by "dressed appropriately"?

9 A. If I'm going to a club, I make sure I put on clothes that
10 will afford me to get into a club. If I'm just walking out on
11 the street, then I'll just wear whatever street clothes I have.
12 Or if I'm doing something that requires me to have a suit, I'll
13 make sure I put on a suit.

14 Q. Do you carry a law enforcement ID when you're undercover?

15 A. I'd say 95 percent of the time no. Rare occasions I have
16 had it on me.

17 Q. Why don't you carry the ID?

18 A. I've been searched multiple times during the course of my
19 job, and if they were to find a police identification on me, it
20 could put me at risk. Mostly I make sure not to do this. One
21 hundred percent if I'm going to be going into buildings or
22 apartments, I will not have any police identification on me.

23 Q. Now, putting your law enforcement hat on for a moment,
24 speaking from the perspective of a law enforcement officer,
25 when you're engaged in these undercover operations, what are

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 your goals?

2 A. Each operation is a little different, but when I first
3 interact with an individual out on the street, I look for any
4 safety concerns. I look for bulges in waistbands or pockets or
5 if they're wearing a fanny pack, possible places to hide
6 weapons, keep eyes on their hands. Then I start looking at
7 clothing descriptions and facial structures so I can remember
8 exactly who I'm dealing with. I look for scars, hair color,
9 things of that nature, body type.

10 Q. In particular, when you're engaged in these longer term
11 case buy operations that you've testified about, what goals do
12 you have?

13 A. As the case goes on, my goals slightly shift. Once I
14 become very familiar with persons I'm dealing with and I know
15 exactly who they are by sight, I start listening for street
16 names that are used by individuals. I start looking to see if
17 they're being given directions by anyone else, if there's a
18 higher structure involved or if this person is working alone.

19 Q. When you use the term "street names," what do you mean?

20 A. Street names just is a nickname that anyone could have.
21 You know, in this case, Mr. Smooth, that's what he said his
22 street name was, Mr. Mial.

23 Q. Over the course of your investigation, how do you build an
24 understanding of the nature of the relationships with an
25 organization?

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 A. You slowly try and work your way in and talk to different
2 people. If you notice there is some sort of structure, you'll
3 try and talk to every individual you can and get -- familiarize
4 yourself with them. And then as you can linger around and hang
5 around, you'll see individuals that will always be giving
6 directions to other people and telling them what to do, and
7 those are the types of things you really need to pick up on.

8 Q. What, if anything, do you do to build relationships with
9 the targets of your investigation.

10 A. I just talk to them like people, like anyone would.

11 Q. Now, in the course of building relationships in narcotics
12 investigations, have you ever been asked to use narcotics?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. When did that happen?

15 A. It happens quite often. People try to see if you're a cop
16 or not by telling you, you know, "You have to smoke this crack.
17 You have to snort this heroin in front of me." I always come
18 up with back stories on why I cannot. There's different types
19 of things to maybe pull on that person to let them let me slide
20 and not have to use the drugs.

21 Q. Have you ever used narcotics?

22 A. I have never had to use narcotics.

23 Q. Aside from the targets of your investigation, do you
24 develop relationships with any other people who are in the area
25 that you're investigating?

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 A. Yes. I work a lot of the same areas. I have the entire 16
2 years of being an undercover, so I do know lots of people that
3 live on the street. I will hang out with them. I will talk to
4 just regular tourists walking around and just say hi to people,
5 just look like you fit in and you're from the neighborhood.

6 Q. Are there ever times when you communicate with drug dealers
7 in advance of a sale?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. How do you do that, just speaking in general terms?

10 A. Phone calls, text messages, things of that nature are big
11 in advance communications.

12 Q. Now, when you're working as an undercover, do you make
13 recordings of your interactions?

14 A. I try to, yes.

15 Q. When you say you "try to," what do you mean?

16 A. Speaking in general of my experiences, I will try my best
17 to at least get audio recordings. I do try to video all my
18 buys that are case buys.

19 Buy and bust is a little more difficult because you're
20 going into scenario in which you don't know what's going to
21 happen. But during case buy operations when you get a feel for
22 everything, you can start introducing cameras and start
23 videoing everything.

24 Q. Can you describe the devices you use to make those video
25 recordings?

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 A. I have an audio recording device if you look at it, you
2 would never know what it is. It looks like a normal item.
3 Same thing with the cameras. Cameras can be hidden into almost
4 anything that you have on your person today.

5 Q. Now, do those recordings always produce perfect audio?

6 A. No, they do not.

7 Q. What might interfere with the audio production of those
8 recordings?

9 A. Building locations, you know, skyscrapers and things of
10 that nature interfere with the devices. Also, just modern
11 technology sometimes just doesn't want to work.

12 Q. Are there times when the video recording fails entirely?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What do you do if that happens?

15 A. If that happens, I note it. I don't know that happens
16 until I get back to where I process my paperwork. And once I
17 realize the audio recording or video recording failed, I will
18 make a notation of that in my paperwork.

19 Q. Let's go back to talking a little bit about those members
20 of the team again. You mentioned the ghost. Does the ghost
21 have a way to communicate with the field team as they're
22 observing the undercover?

23 A. Yes, they do.

24 Q. How do they communicate?

25 A. The ghost has, as I said before, a radio hidden on their

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 person. This is point-to-point radio, meaning they could
2 communicate with the other members of the field team, and the
3 other members of the field team could communicate with them.
4 It's just like a regular police radio. There are wires and
5 such that hide it on their person so that no one would know
6 that they had the radio on them.

7 Q. Does the undercover have a way to communicate with the
8 field team?

9 A. The only way the undercover could communicate with the
10 field team is through physical signals, gestures such as like
11 rubbing your shoulder or something. These signals are
12 predetermined at the tack plan. And then also cell phones, if
13 they have a cell phone on them. The undercover does -- primary
14 undercover does not carry any type of radio. They do have a
15 small one-way transmitter called a Kel device, K-E-L. This is
16 a one-way transmitter that transmits back to the leader's
17 vehicle. It's a last hope safety mechanism that if the leader
18 hears something over it, like yelling or something, he can
19 direct the field team to move in.

20 Q. Does the Kel record?

21 A. Kel does not record.

22 Q. So why do you use it if it's not recording?

23 A. The Kel is not recorded because it's extremely unreliable,
24 and we're trained to treat it as though it is not working
25 because, especially in Manhattan, if you turn a corner and the

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 leader's vehicle is a block away, nothing is going to get
2 picked up.

3 Q. I want to go back to focusing on the planning for these
4 operations. Are you familiar with the term prerecorded buy
5 money?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And if I refer to that as PRBM, are you going to know what
8 I'm talking about?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. What is PRBM?

11 A. PRBM, prerecorded buy money, is money that is photocopied
12 prior to going out on the street. PRBM, prerecorded buy money,
13 is typically used during arrest scenarios, like buy-and-bust
14 operations, or a case takedown where a buy is made right before
15 the case is taken down.

16 It's simply just regular money taken out of the ATM
17 that is lined up on a photocopier with some administrative
18 stuff written down on the paperwork, and it's photocopied so
19 that every single serial number on every bill is visible. So
20 if an arrest is made, when they're processing the arrest, they
21 can go through the individual who was arrested, his money that
22 he has on him, to see if any of the money used was the money
23 used by the undercover in the money he has.

24 Q. Just to be clear, when you say the money is photocopied,
25 who's doing that photocopying?

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 A. Usually the lead investigator or the arresting officer is
2 the person that photocopies all the money, and they hold a copy
3 of this photocopy. The money is then given to the undercover
4 who then uses it in drug purchases. Then the arresting officer
5 attempts to find that money again on the individual who was
6 arrested.

7 Q. You testified a moment ago that PRBM is often used in
8 buy-and-bust operations. Is it used in case buy operations,
9 the longer term investigations?

10 A. The only time it's used during case buy operations is if
11 I'm -- I set up a deal today to buy drugs, and he's going to be
12 arrested later today, then we will use that money. Other than
13 that, it's not prerecorded because over a long-term
14 investigation, it could be months, and money changes hands
15 pretty quickly.

16 Q. So in circumstance when you're not using prerecorded buy
17 money, can you describe for the jury the process by which you
18 get the money to go pay for narcotics as an undercover officer?

19 A. All the money comes from our supervisor. He has an account
20 with the NYPD that he is in charge of. The supervisor will
21 either hand the money directly to me or to the case officer who
22 will then hand it to me.

23 Q. Is there a record made of that transaction?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Can you describe what those records look like and how that

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 process works?

2 A. The records are basically any time I spend money, I create
3 an expense report, which is basically just all the money that I
4 spend and which money I gave back to the supervisor.

5 Q. Are you familiar with the term "set"?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. What's a set?

8 A. A set is street terminology or cop terminology for a drug,
9 the location. Set could be anywhere from three blocks, you
10 know, or smaller; it could just be a corner. It's basically
11 where you're going to be doing your operation and where they
12 sell drugs.

13 Q. So speaking in general terms, and not specific to this
14 case, when you arrive on the set and you're acting in your
15 undercover capacity, what do you do?

16 MR. McGUINNESS: Objection.

17 THE COURT: Overruled.

18 A. Once I'm at a location of where I'm looking to purchase
19 narcotics, I will first just observed a little bit and walk
20 around if it's a location that I'm unfamiliar with. If it's
21 one I'm familiar with, I'll walk to where exactly I know they
22 sell drugs and then start looking around. You look to see if
23 people are hanging out or people constantly moving their head
24 side to side looking around, which I will do the same, and I
25 hope for somebody to approach me offering drugs, or if not, I

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 will just walk around and say hi to people and just get into
2 conversations.

3 Q. Is it the case that you purchase drugs from everyone that
4 you approach?

5 A. No. The vast majority of people I talk to out on the
6 street I've never purchased drugs from.

7 Q. How do you know whether or not you're going to be able to
8 purchase drugs from someone?

9 A. I gauge responses based on how I talk to them. You know,
10 if I say hi to someone, and they say hi back to me, and they
11 say, "What are you looking for?" I'll just tell them the drug
12 I'm looking for, and we go from there.

13 Q. How do you communicate the type of narcotic that you're
14 interested in purchasing?

15 A. I judge based upon the area and my past purchases with what
16 I purchased at different locations to know what to purchase.
17 Sometimes individuals will just blatantly tell you "I have X,"
18 you know, and then I'll just go along with whatever drug they
19 say they had.

20 Q. Are there particular terms associated with particular
21 drugs?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Can you describe what some of those are?

24 A. MDMA is molly; that's a big one. White girl is cocaine,
25 powder cocaine. Also, soft could be powder cocaine. On the

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 flip side, hard is crack cocaine. Crills is another street
2 term for crack cocaine. Sometimes crack is just called crack.
3 Heroin could be dog food, H, heroin, or with heroin it's unique
4 because they have their own individual stamps, so they can go
5 by the different stamp names.

6 Q. Let's focus on cocaine and crack cocaine. What was the
7 term for crack cocaine?

8 A. Powder cocaine is usually either just coke, white girl or
9 soft.

10 Q. And why soft?

11 A. Soft because it's a powdery substance, it's a lot more
12 fluffy than crack cocaine.

13 Q. What is the term for crack cocaine?

14 A. Crack cocaine is hard because it's a hard, rocky substance.
15 Crills, I'm not sure why. It's just what they've called it for
16 years.

17 Q. When you purchase crack, how do you communicate the
18 quantity that you want to purchase?

19 A. It all comes back to what dealers you're dealing with. If
20 it's somebody I'm not used to dealing with, I'll just tell them
21 the money denomination I'm looking for. I'll tell them I'm
22 looking for 60, I'm looking for 40, so they will give me what
23 they deem appropriate. Because some people sell \$10. Some
24 people sell \$50, \$20 and some places you could even buy \$5, but
25 that's rare.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. Why is it that you communicate the money amount rather than
2 the amount of drug?

3 A. When I'm dealing with new people, I don't want to say, "Let
4 me get two," and they hand me two bags, and I was expecting it
5 to be 20, and they're expecting me to give them 40. So if that
6 happens, then they'll question you, like, "Wait, you've never
7 been here before? Who are you?" And it just creates conflict.

8 Q. Can you describe a typical hand-to-hand drug transaction?

9 A. Hand-to-hand drug transactions are very, very fast. They
10 could give a quarter to the person sitting next to you or
11 handing over a cigarette. It happens in seconds, and then
12 that's it. Then the two parties separate.

13 Q. Throughout your career as an undercover, have there been
14 times you've served as a ghost?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Approximately how many times?

17 A. At least 5,000. I do ghost work every week.

18 Q. When you're serving as a ghost, do you observe hand-to-hand
19 transactions?

20 A. I do.

21 Q. Generally speaking, what do you observe?

22 A. As a ghost, my job is to be there for the safety of the
23 undercover, so I'll hang back, and I mostly never see the
24 actual hand-to-hand because they're so quick and with street
25 traffic in Manhattan. So I hang back just so I can hear what's

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 going on with the undercover. If they're in trouble, I'll let
2 them know and let the team know, but we lose sight of the
3 primary undercover quite often.

4 Q. Let's move back to talking about when you're operating as
5 an undercover officer. Once you've been able to successfully
6 purchase narcotics, what do you do next?

7 A. Once I purchase narcotics, I'll hold it on my person until
8 I get away from the location. Usually back in the vehicle, I
9 will put it into a secure envelope which has a tamper-proof
10 seal and a unique serial number. This is called an undercover
11 envelope. It's a plastic envelope that I keep on my person.
12 Until later that day when all the operations are done, I'll
13 hand it to the lead investigator or the arresting officer to be
14 vouchered in evidence and sent to the lab.

15 Q. Let's walk through that step by step. Once you put the
16 narcotics into the envelope, where does the envelope go next?

17 A. Once I put the narcotics into the envelope, it goes in my
18 pocket and doesn't leave my pocket until I hand it to the
19 investigator.

20 Q. We're going to come back to the undercover envelopes in a
21 moment.

22 Now, during your time as an undercover, have you
23 conducted investigations in and around Times Square?

24 A. I have.

25 Q. How many times?

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 A. That's too vast to approximate. I've been working that
2 same neighborhood for 16 years multiple times a week.

3 Q. When you're working in your undercover capacity in Times
4 Square, can you just describe the role that you typically play?

5 A. When I'm in Times Square, specifically on 8th Avenue, I
6 play -- I never tell anyone that I'm a user, but I could be
7 viewed as a user, and I try to typically spend a little more
8 money than the average person so I stand out.

9 Q. When you say that you try to appear as a user, can you
10 describe what you mean by that?

11 A. The clothing I wear, I won't walk down 8th Avenue in a suit
12 typically to buy crack cocaine, although I have. But I'll let
13 my beard grow out, my hair is a mess, things of that nature.

14 Q. Beginning in the winter of 2019, did you begin a long-term
15 case buy operation along 8th Avenue just off of Times Square?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. How did that investigation begin?

18 A. That investigation began, I was given intel by the lead
19 investigator in this case, Detective Murdock, that possibly
20 there was a group that set up on the corner, and it was
21 multiple individuals who were working together selling
22 narcotics.

23 Q. Based on that information, did you take any investigatory
24 steps?

25 A. Yes I did.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. What did you do?

2 A. I went to that location. I bought off of several
3 individuals that were not involved in this case. I got my face
4 noticed by certain individuals, and I eventually purchased from
5 the person who I learned to be JD Ghost.

6 Q. We are going to come back to that name in a moment.

7 As you began making purchases, what were your goals?

8 A. My goals during this case and on that corner were to find
9 as many individuals involved with this operation as possible;
10 and then while doing that, start looking for any structure,
11 anybody that's giving orders, anybody that appears to be
12 running the show.

13 Q. Can you describe what you mean by "structure"?

14 A. Individuals that seem to be giving orders, bosses, you
15 know, telling other people what to do, watching out and, you
16 know, telling people who to sell drugs to or how much.

17 Q. Over the course of this particular investigation, did you
18 purchase narcotics?

19 A. I did.

20 Q. On how many occasions?

21 A. 67 occasions.

22 Q. A little more background. Based on your experience in this
23 case, what quantity of narcotics was consistent with a user in
24 Times Square between 2019 and 2021?

25 A. The users in that neighborhood, they spend anywhere from

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 \$10 to \$30 typically. Obviously, there are occasions where
2 people will spend more, and that's how much the street-level
3 person that lives over there or is visiting over there will
4 spend.

5 Q. How much crack cocaine will \$10 to \$30 buy you in Times
6 Square in 2019 to 2021?

7 A. Depends on the dealer, but typically a \$10 bag will be --
8 think of a small, groomed pinky fingernail. The packaging
9 varies, but during this time they mostly sold capsules, you
10 know, so you can get three capsules if you had \$30. Sometimes
11 if you had \$8, they'll sell you one capsule.

12 Q. Would \$10 to \$30 get you the same amount of cocaine,
13 powdered cocaine?

14 A. No.

15 Q. How does it differ?

16 A. You would not be able to by \$10 or \$30 worth of powder
17 cocaine in that neighborhood. Powder cocaine is usually sold
18 by the gram in that neighborhood. Some people will ask at
19 least \$100 a gram, and I've heard as much as \$200 a gram.

20 Q. Why is that?

21 A. It's a touristy neighborhood, and people from New York will
22 take advantage of tourists when they can.

23 Q. Now, did the amount of cocaine that you were purchasing
24 change over the course of the investigation?

25 A. Yes.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. Why is that?

2 A. I started off, to not raise any eyebrows, a little higher
3 than the typical street user. I started spending the first
4 five weeks \$40, then I started staying around the \$60 mark; and
5 as everyone of the group started to get to know me, I started
6 spending upwards of a hundred dollars plus.

7 Q. Was there a reason you started spending additional money?

8 A. I wanted them to think of me as a good customer, someone
9 reliable, and someone that they wanted to talk to.

10 Q. You testified earlier when you were speaking about
11 investigations generally that you try to make recordings of
12 your undercover operations. Did you make recordings of the
13 transactions you participated in during this investigation?

14 A. Yes, I did.

15 Q. Did make audio recordings?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Did you make video recordings?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Did your recording devices always work during this
20 investigation?

21 A. No. Several times throughout this investigation my audio
22 recordings or video recordings failed.

23 Q. When they failed, what did you do?

24 A. I notated it on my paperwork that I do when I get back to
25 my base to process everything.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. You say you notate it on your paper. What kind of
2 paperwork do you do when you get back to the base?

3 A. When I get back to the base, the first thing I do is it's
4 called an undercover buy report. This is a synopsis so that
5 the undercover with read it at a later date and it will refresh
6 his memory or her memory on what they did on that particular
7 day because some of these cases go on for years.

8 Q. How close in times to the actual transaction do you prepare
9 that report?

10 A. Depends on how many operations I do in a day. If you make
11 the buy when you first go out, it could be four hours later,
12 but it's always the same day.

13 Q. Detective Murphy, in front of you on the stand there,
14 there's a thumb drive. It has a yellow sticker marked
15 Government Exhibit 401 to 467. Do you see that?

16 A. I do.

17 Q. Do you recognize that?

18 A. I do.

19 Q. Have you seen it before?

20 A. I have.

21 Q. How do you know that you've seen it before?

22 A. I know I've seen this before because it has my initials on
23 it written right where it says Government Exhibit.

24 Q. Did you write those initials?

25 A. I did.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. Have you reviewed the contents of that drive?

2 A. I have.

3 Q. What's on there in general terms?

4 A. On the drive is my recordings of the buys I made during the
5 course of this investigation and also small little clips taken
6 out of my longer video for the buy.

7 Q. In total, approximately how many hours of recordings are on
8 that thumb drive?

9 A. A couple hours, few hours.

10 Q. Have you looked at every file that's on that drive?

11 A. I have.

12 Q. Does each file have a number?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Have you examined each one of those numbered files?

15 A. I have.

16 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, at this time the government
17 offers government exhibits on the drive, and I will read those
18 into the record one by one if your Honor would prefer.

19 THE COURT: Not necessary, but do they span 401 to 467
20 with some -- do they capture all 67 that are in there or are
21 there some holes in there?

22 MS. NICOLAS: They do capture all 67, but it may be
23 easier for me to read the numbers skipped. There are no
24 Government Exhibits 419, 425, 431 or 453 and 454. Otherwise,
25 that drive is inclusive of 401 to 467, as well as the excerpts

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 which are the government exhibits numbers accompanied by an A
2 or B.

3 THE COURT: Any objection?

4 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

5 THE COURT: They're all received.

6 (Government's Exhibits 401 to 467, exclusive of 419,
7 425, 431 or 453 and 454 received in evidence)

8 Q. Detective Murphy, there should also be a binder on your
9 stand that includes a set of government exhibits that begin
10 again with 4 followed by a T.

11 Mr. Foley, if you could ...

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 Q. I'm going to ask you just to flip through that binder for a
14 moment and look up when you're done.

15 A. I've looked at this earlier.

16 Q. In general terms, what's contained in that binder?

17 A. These are transcripts of the audio/video recordings that I
18 did during this case.

19 Q. Have you reviewed those transcripts?

20 A. I have.

21 Q. In the course of your investigation, did you speak with
22 targets of the investigation when you were making buys?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. On how many occasions did you have discussions with these
25 individuals?

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 A. I don't remember exactly how many occasions because I did
2 67 buys, but on other days I did speak with Mr. Mial over the
3 phone. So over 67 times.

4 Q. When you reviewed these transcripts, did you review the
5 content for its accuracy?

6 A. I did.

7 Q. Did you also review the voice attributions contained
8 therein?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Are these transcripts a fair and accurate representation of
11 the contents of the videos -- some of the videos that are
12 contained in Government Exhibits 401 to 467?

13 A. Yes.

14 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor at this time the government
15 offers the set of transcripts that include Government Exhibits
16 412T, 420T, 427T, 432T, 434T, 435T, 437T, 438T, 441T, 444T,
17 445T, 446T and 447T, 449T, 451T, 455T, as well as 464T and
18 467T.

19 THE COURT: Any objection?

20 MR. McGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor, I object to their
21 admission in evidence. I object to their admission into
22 evidence and ask they be used only as an aid to the jury.

23 THE COURT: Any objection to that, counsel?

24 MS. NICOLAS: No objection, your Honor.

25 THE COURT: All right. I will receive the transcripts

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 solely as an aid to the jury.

2 Ladies and gentlemen, I will instruct you further
3 about this at the end of the case. But the short of it for now
4 is that it is ultimately the words on the audio or the video
5 that control. The transcript is merely an assist to you to
6 enable to you follow. But ultimately it's the words that are
7 recorded that control, and if you conclude that the words that
8 are used that are tape-recorded are different from the ones in
9 the transcript, that is what you should use to guide your
10 determinations.

11 Mr. McGuinness, does that do the trick?

12 MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes, thank you.

13 THE COURT: With that, they are received.

14 MS. NICOLAS: Thank you, your Honor.

15 (Government's Exhibits 412T, 420T, 427T, 432T, 434T,
16 435T, 437T, 438T, 441T, 444T, 445T, 446T and 447T, 449T, 451T,
17 455T, 464T and 467T received in evidence)

18 Q. Now, we spoke a minute ago about the UC's envelopes you've
19 used over the course of your career. I would ask you to take a
20 look at an item that's been placed on the witness stand that's
21 marked for identification as Government Exhibit 299. Do you
22 see that?

23 A. I do.

24 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish for the witness, the
25 parties and the Court only Government Exhibit 299P.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Do you recognize that?

2 A. I do.

3 Q. Speaking in general terms, what is that?

4 A. This is the undercover envelope on which I seal my
5 narcotics into prior to giving it to the investigating officer.

6 Q. Is that a used narcotics envelope?

7 A. No, this one is unused.

8 Q. Is the image depicted in 299P a fair and accurate depiction
9 of the object you're holding in your hand, which is Government
10 Exhibit 299?

11 A. Yes.

12 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, the government offers
13 Government Exhibits 299 and 299P.

14 MR. McGUINNESS: No objection.

15 THE COURT: Received.

16 (Government's Exhibits 299 and 299P received in
17 evidence)

18 Q. Can you hold up Government Exhibit 299. It's also depicted
19 on the screen.

20 Mr. Foley, if you could please publish Government
21 Exhibit 299P for the jury.

22 Could you explain how you used this bag?

23 A. This bag is the undercover envelope which I seal narcotics
24 into. At the top, if you look at the top of your screen, you
25 will see a little white part with a serial number on it. Just

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 below that, it's a little hard to see on the video, but you
2 could see it looks like a little strip. That is a sticky
3 strip. Once you take the plastic off the back, it will seal
4 the plastic envelope. It's a tamper-proof seal. It cannot be
5 opened without ripping the bag.

6 So the serial number on the bag you can see is a
7 little bit below that. It's the same serial number that's on
8 top. This is where the drugs are put in. And once it's
9 sealed, it cannot be tampered with at all without having the
10 bag rip.

11 Below that, you'll see the white box in the middle.
12 It's hard to see, but from the top going to the bottom, I
13 handwrite on all my bags, the date, the time I made the
14 purchase, the location, the JD name, and then the time I sealed
15 the bag, so what time I closed the bag and put the drugs in it.
16 Q. Now, you mentioned it's a tamper-proof bag. When, if ever,
17 is that bag opened up?

18 A. The bag is sealed. For some drugs, it's not opened up
19 until it gets to the laboratory to be tested. Sometimes with
20 powdered cocaine or rock crack cocaine, the investigating
21 officer will open the bag and field test the narcotics to
22 know -- it's a presumptive test -- so we know if it's real or
23 not.

24 If it comes back fake, I can then communicate with the
25 dealers and tell them that they gave me fake stuff. If it's

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 real, the investigating officer will follow the normal process
2 and vouchering the drugs.

3 Q. In the course of this particular case buy operation, was
4 there ever a fake drug field test?

5 A. No.

6 Q. You mentioned there's a serial number on this bag. Is that
7 a unique serial number?

8 A. Yes, it's a unique serial number to this one specific bag.

9 Q. Can you just direct the attention to the jury where that
10 seal number is located on the bag?

11 A. You can see it on the top part, which part of that is able
12 to be ripped off for the undercover to keep or the investigator
13 to keep. And just below that, it's a little down and to the
14 left, which is highlighted now, there's the same serial number
15 in a second spot.

16 Q. What is the serial number used for?

17 A. It's for drug identification purposes so that we know the
18 drugs I purchased off of the individual that I write on this
19 bag are always the same drugs.

20 Q. Does that serial number go anywhere else?

21 A. This serial number gets put on the seizure invoice.
22 There's two different invoices that are done, and it's written
23 on both of those.

24 Q. Mr. Foley, you can pull that down.

25 Detective Murphy, I'm going to be ask you to be

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 careful here. Behind you, just off to your right, there are
2 two boxes. Do you see those?

3 A. I do.

4 Q. Can you turn around for a moment, flip through those boxes,
5 and tell us what's in there.

6 Do you recognize those items?

7 A. I do.

8 Q. In general terms, what are they?

9 A. They're narcotics that I purchased during the course of
10 this investigation.

11 Q. Is each one of those bags marked with a Government Exhibit
12 sticker?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Are those bags placed in order?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Again, I'm going to ask you to look, can you tell me what
17 the first and last numbers of the bags are?

18 A. The bags go from 201 to 267, split into two boxes.

19 Q. Have you had a chance to examine those bags prior to your
20 testimony today?

21 A. I have.

22 Q. Again, in general terms, what's inside of those bags?

23 A. The narcotics I purchased during this investigation.

24 Q. Did you examine the invoice numbers that are on those bags?

25 A. I have.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. Did you see anything inside of those bags that you
2 recognized?

3 A. Yes, the drugs that I purchased during this investigation
4 are packaged inside those bags.

5 Q. Is there anything else in those bags that you recognized?

6 A. Yes, the plastic security envelope that I used during my
7 narcotics purchases are in the bag as well.

8 Q. Did you verify the numbers on those envelopes match the
9 numbers on the invoices?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And did you examine the contents of those bags as compared
12 to the invoices in your reports?

13 A. I did.

14 Q. Are the items that are in those bags in substantially the
15 same condition as they were when you turned them over in the
16 course of the investigation?

17 A. They're in a similar condition, but they have been changed
18 through processing during laboratory analysis.

19 Q. What kind of changes have been made?

20 A. They have been unpackaged from my UC envelope. Some of the
21 drugs appear to have been tested, and some of them were not.
22 It's all laid out inside the bag.

23 Q. Now, during the course of your career, have you seen
24 similar changes made to narcotics during processing?

25 A. Yes.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. There's also a binder in front of you that contains
2 Government Exhibits 201P to 267P. The front of the binder
3 should say government exhibits. If you could flip to the tab
4 that begins 201P?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Flip through those for a moment and look up when you're
7 done.

8 A. Okay.

9 Q. Are the items marked Government Exhibits 201P to 267P a
10 fair and accurate depiction of the seized narcotics that you
11 talked about that are in Government Exhibits 201 to 267?

12 A. Yes, they are photographs, copies of the bags.
13

14 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, at this time the government
15 offers both Government Exhibits 201 to 267, as well as
16 Government Exhibits 201P to 267P.

17 THE COURT: Any objection?

18 MR. McGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor, I object. The
19 foundation hasn't been properly laid for all of these items.

20 THE COURT: Let me see counsel at the sidebar.

21 I'll ask the witness to step down, please.

22 (Continued on next page)
23
24
25

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

(At the sidebar)

THE COURT: What's the basis for the objection?

MR. McGUINNESS: Judge, I don't believe there has been a proper basis for all 67 items to come in. I think the only foundation that's been laid with these were the drugs purchased during the investigation, not who from, not when. Surely there's going to be additional questions as to each of these purchases. I think that's the time for them to come in after that specific foundation has been made.

THE COURT: Ms. Nicolas, is there a way to ask a few more questions, at least at a general level, without having to go bag by bag that can a little more tightly define the parameters he used to define the investigation?

MS. NICOLAS: I can do that.

THE COURT: Very good.

(Continued on next page)

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 (In open court)

2 BY MS. NICOLAS:

3 Q. Detective Murphy, those 67 evidence bags, were they all
4 purchased in the course of the same long-term case buy
5 investigation?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. In each instance, what did you do to log that evidence in
8 the same investigation?

9 A. In every single instance, I put the drugs into my UC
10 plastic security envelope, which was then held on my person the
11 entire time.

12 Once I got back to the command, I handed it to either
13 Detective Murdock, or one of the other investigators on a rare
14 occasion, to be vouchered into evidence where it's assigned its
15 invoice number, where my UC number is documented on, and then
16 it's sent to the laboratory.

17 Q. On each of those occasions, did you also prepare a report?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Were those reports all filed under a particular number
20 associated with the long-term case buy operation?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. How does that differ than when you purchase narcotics in a
23 single buy-and-bust operation?

24 A. In a single buy-and-bust operation, the same measures are
25 taken, except for the person is arrested, and it's put on their

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 arrest paperwork, not just my buy reports and expense report.

2 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, at this time the government
3 offers Government Exhibits 201 to 267, as well as Government
4 Exhibits 201P to 267P.

5 MR. McGUINNESS: Same objection, your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Ms. Nicolas, a little more. In other
7 words, what led him to conclude that the particular buys were
8 associated with the same group that he says he was
9 investigating? That's what I think the objection goes to.

10 Q. Specific as to those 67 evidence bags, Detective Murphy,
11 when was this investigation -- or excuse me when were those
12 transactions occurring, what time period?

13 A. They occurred from December 2019 and on. During each
14 purchase, the JD names or the government names were logged onto
15 the narcotic envelope, and that's how I know it's assigned to
16 my number that they were the drugs that I purchased.

17 Q. Let's focus on those JD names for a minute. Who determines
18 a JD name?

19 A. A JD name, also known as a John Doe name or a Jane Doe, is
20 a name that is given by an undercover to an individual involved
21 in the case when they don't know their government name. In
22 this case, Mr. Mial, before I knew his name, was JD Eyes, and
23 then once he told me his name was Smooth, he became JD Smooth.

24 Q. To your left are what's been marked as Government Exhibits
25 101C, 101D, 102C, 103C, 103D, 104C, 105C, 106C, 107C and 108C.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 Have you found those, Detective Murphy?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Just looking at -- the Government Exhibits numbers on the
4 back of those items. Just flipping through those for a moment,
5 101C and D, 102C 3C, 3D, 4C, 5C, 6C, 7C and 8C, what are those
6 items?

7 A. These are JD names of the individuals that I purchased from
8 during the course of this investigation.

9 Q. Again, who determines those JD names?

10 A. I did.

11 Q. Are those fair and accurate depictions of the JD names you
12 used during this particular case buy investigation?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Are those the individuals from whom you coordinated and
15 purchased narcotics from on those 67 occasions?

16 A. Yes.

17 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, at this time the government
18 offers Government Exhibits 101C, 101D, 102C, 103C, 103D, 104C,
19 105C, 106C, 107C and 108C?

20 THE COURT: Any objection?

21 MR. McGUINNESS: If I could just take a look.

22 THE COURT: Sure.

23 MR. McGUINNESS: No objection.

24 THE COURT: All right. These are all the name plates?

25 MS. NICOLAS: Yes, your Honor.

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 THE COURT: They are all received.

2 (Government's Exhibits 101C, 101D, 102C, 103C, 103D,
3 104C, 105C, 106C, 107C and 108C received in evidence)

4 Q. In the course of those 67 buys, were there some occasions
5 on which you purchased narcotics from individuals who are not
6 named in those name plates?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What did you observe that led you to believe that those
9 individuals were involved in the same long-term set, involved
10 in the narcotics that you were purchasing?

11 A. The individuals, you mean that are not here or these
12 individuals?

13 Q. The individuals who are not named there.

14 A. There are other persons that I purchased from during the
15 course of this investigation. Some -- one or two, I believe,
16 were not involved at all with this organization. And the ones
17 that I bought from that are here -- that are not here are
18 individuals who we were never able to ID, find, and arrest, and
19 other ones charges were not brought.

20 Q. So for the individuals for whom you determined were not
21 involved at all, are those narcotics included among the 67
22 evidence bags that are behind you?

23 A. No.

24 Q. For those for whom you were not able to identify, what did
25 you observe that led you to believe that they were part of the

MAIQmia3

Murphy - Direct

1 same crew?

2 A. They were working with the individuals I was purchasing off
3 of. A couple times I was given drugs by an individual who we
4 were not able to identify, and they are not here on these name
5 plates.

6 (Continued on next page)

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. When you say "working with," what did you observe that made
2 you think that they were working with other people?

3 A. They were given orders to sell to me, and then they sold
4 the drugs to me from members of this operation.

5 MS. NICOLAS: At this time, your Honor, the government
6 offers Government Exhibits 201-267, as well as 201P-267P.

7 THE COURT: May I just ask you, when you said they
8 were given orders, what was your basis for that?

9 THE WITNESS: I saw individuals who are on these name
10 plates tell other subjects who physically handed me the drugs
11 to hand me the drugs.

12 THE COURT: All right.

13 MR. MCGUINNESS: Same objection.

14 THE COURT: All right. At this point, the objection
15 is overruled. And I will receive all of the exhibits into
16 evidence.

17 (Government Exhibits 201-267 and 201P-267P received
18 into evidence)

19 BY MS. NICOLAS:

20 Q. Can you reach behind you and pull out what's in evidence
21 now as Government Exhibit 201?

22 And, Mr. Foley, if you could please publish for the
23 jury what's now in evidence as Government Exhibit 201P.

24 THE COURT: May I just see counsel at the sidebar for
25 one moment, please.

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 (At sidebar)

2 THE COURT: I just wanted to make it clear, in
3 receiving the exhibits, I'm doing it to subject to connection.
4 It's been proffered to me, of course, that there are reasons to
5 connect, for example, the other names on the name plates to the
6 organization of this defendant. That said, just given the way
7 the evidence comes in—we're not there yet—I didn't want to
8 articulate that in front of the jury, but I'm receiving it
9 subject to connection that the later evidence will link up the
10 others. But given that proffer, it's properly received.

11 Very good.

12 (Continued on next page)

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MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 (In open court)

2 BY MS. NICOLAS:

3 Q. Okay. Detective Murphy, now that the jury can also see
4 Government Exhibit 201, I'd like to just walk through what
5 we're looking at in this bag.

6 Beginning with the bag itself, is there a place on
7 that bag that you see an invoice number? And it's the exact
8 same thing you're holding in your hand, if it's easier for you
9 to see.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Can you describe where that is?

12 A. If you look on the left side of the bag, going bottom to
13 top, you'll see the second number over to the right—it starts
14 with 1001—that is the precinct voucher number which are
15 assigned to these narcotics and these narcotics only.

16 Q. Now, if you could flip the bag over, and Mr. Foley can go
17 to page 2, can you just describe what's contained within
18 beginning with where "UC envelope" is.

19 A. My UC envelope is on the bottom. It's marked No. 3 on the
20 bag. And you can see the serial number there.

21 Q. And moving up into what's marked as 1, what is that?

22 A. One is the unpackaged narcotics that I purchased on this
23 day.

24 Q. Mr. Foley, you can pull that down.

25 Detective Murphy, you can place that back into the

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 bag -- excuse me. Into the box.

2 Mr. Foley, if you could please publish for the Court,
3 witness, and counsel what's been marked for identification as
4 Government Exhibit 3004.

5 Detective Murphy, in very general terms, what is
6 Government Exhibit 3004?

7 A. This is a list of the purchases that I made during this
8 case, starting from 1 going all the way to 67.

9 Q. Does this chart summarize the events that are captured on
10 the videos contained in Government Exhibit 401 and 407?

11 THE COURT: Can I just ask, for the benefit of the
12 witness and the Court, that this be enlarged?

13 MS. NICOLAS: Yes.

14 Mr. Foley, if you could zoom in on the top half there,
15 or even the top third.

16 THE COURT: Thank you.

17 Q. So I'll ask again: Does this chart summarize the events
18 that are captured on videos contained on what is in evidence as
19 Government Exhibits 401 to 467?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Does it also contain the information that is the contents
22 of the evidence bags that are in evidence as Government
23 Exhibits 201 to 267?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Did you participate in the creation of this chart?

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 A. I reviewed this chart.

2 Q. And in reviewing this chart, did you make corrections?

3 A. I did.

4 Q. Okay. Now, does this chart fairly and accurately describe
5 the events that are captured in the videos that are Government
6 Exhibit 401 to 467?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. As well as the evidence bags that are 401 for 267?

9 A. Yes.

10 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, at this time, the government
11 offers Government Exhibit 3004.

12 THE COURT: Any objection?

13 MR. MCGUINNESS: May I voir dire?

14 THE COURT: You may.

15 MR. MCGUINNESS: Good morning, Detective.

16 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

17 MR. MCGUINNESS: In this column, "seller," there's
18 instances where there's more than one person; do you see that?

19 THE WITNESS: I do.

20 MR. MCGUINNESS: Does that reflect two separate
21 transactions.

22 THE WITNESS: That reflects the same transaction, it's
23 just two persons were involved.

24 MR. MCGUINNESS: When you say "involved," were two
25 people giving you drugs at the same time?

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 THE WITNESS: Some occasions, I was handed drugs by
2 multiple people. The majority of the transactions, one person
3 handed me drugs.

4 MR. MCGUINNESS: And when you say "involved," that's a
5 determination that you made subjectively about whether they
6 participated, correct?

7 THE WITNESS: No, not subjectively.

8 MR. MCGUINNESS: Well, the person didn't necessarily
9 have to give you drugs or receive your money to make it onto
10 your seller list; is that fair to say?

11 THE WITNESS: Correct.

12 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

13 THE COURT: All right. It's received.

14 (Government Exhibit 3004 received in evidence)

15 BY MS. NICOLAS:

16 Q. So before we talk about any particular transactions --

17 THE COURT: Do you want to publish?

18 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, may I publish?

19 THE COURT: Sure. Let me just take a moment and
20 explain to the jury what we all are saying when we use the word
21 "publish."

22 From time to time, as you've already seen, exhibits
23 are shown only to counsel and to the witness and to the Court.
24 That is because, until I determine that an exhibit can be
25 received in evidence, it can't be shown to you. Once the

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 exhibit is received in evidence, counsel will often ask that it
2 be published, and that simply means in lawyer speak, judge
3 speak, that it be displayed to you. So Ms. Nicolas is asking
4 that this chart, which is Exhibit 3004, be displayed to you.
5 And the answer is yes.

6 MS. NICOLAS: Thank you, your Honor.

7 BY MS. NICOLAS:

8 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please publish to the jury.

9 So beginning on the far left, I just want to walk
10 through what type of information is in each column. The far
11 left column that's marked "USAO transaction number," what is
12 the information in that column?

13 A. That is the order in which I made my purchases. So 1 was
14 the first purchase that I made in this case.

15 Q. The next column says "buy date." What is that?

16 A. That is the date in which I had purchased the narcotics.

17 Q. The next column is "quantity." What is quantity?

18 A. Quantity is the amount I purchased, along with the
19 packaging type in which I received.

20 Q. Now, there's a couple different types of packaging types
21 listed here.

22 Can you just describe in very general terms what a
23 twist is?

24 A. A twist, think about putting a small rock into a corner of
25 a clear sandwich bag. You turn it and turn it, the rock, until

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 it twists and then you rip it off. So then you tie the end
2 into a knot and that would be a twist of crack cocaine.

3 Q. What's a capsule?

4 A. A capsule is a small, plastic container which has a top
5 affixed to it so you could just flick it open and the top
6 doesn't fall off. And inside that plastic container is where
7 the crack is kept, or whatever drug the person is selling. And
8 they come in a variety of colors.

9 Q. We'll look at some twists and capsules in a bit.

10 Moving to the next column, "cost," what is that?

11 A. Cost is the amount I spent on that particular buy.

12 Q. Now, the next column "seller," I want to come back to.

13 "Buy location," what is buy location?

14 A. The buy location is the location on which I purchased the
15 narcotics. This is in an approximate location. It's usually
16 within a building or two of each other because, on the street,
17 I don't have paper to write it down.

18 Q. Going back to that seller column, a moment ago we talked
19 about some Government Exhibits with JD names on them.

20 In the seller column, are those JD names?

21 A. Yes. This is the JD name which I gave to all the subjects
22 in the case.

23 Q. Is there a reason there's not their true names in that
24 column?

25 A. I don't know all of the government names of every

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 individual I purchase from. I try not to learn their names
2 during the course of my investigation because I don't want to
3 slip and actually call them by their name.

4 Q. Did you learn the true names of any of the people that's
5 listed in the seller column here?

6 A. Yes. Ghost is Mr. Johnny Perez. And Smooth Eyes is
7 Mr. Davon Mial.

8 Q. So I want to walk through these one by one for a moment.

9 The first individual you just testified, Ghost, is
10 Johnny Perez?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. All right. I'm going to ask you to take a look at what's
13 been marked as Government Exhibit 102B, which should be a
14 smaller Government Exhibit sitting next to you there further
15 back on the witness stand.

16 Okay. What is Government Exhibit 102B?

17 A. 102B is the name "Mr. Johnny Perez" written on a little
18 foam board. This is the name of -- government name of JD
19 Ghost.

20 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, the government offers
21 Government Exhibit 102B into evidence.

22 THE COURT: Any objection?

23 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

24 THE COURT: Received.

25 (Government Exhibit 102B received in evidence)

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. And, Detective Murphy, I'm also going to ask you to look at
2 101B.

3 Do you recognize that?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. What is 101B?

6 A. 101B is the name "Davon Mial." It's the individual
7 involved in this case, the defendant, whose JD names was Eyes
8 and Smooth.

9 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, the government offers
10 Government Exhibit 101B into evidence.

11 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

12 THE COURT: Received.

13 (Government Exhibit 101B received in evidence)

14 BY MS. NICOLAS:

15 Q. Detective Murphy, to avoid too much movement here, I'm
16 going to ask Mr. Foley to assist, if that is all right with
17 your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Absolutely.

19 Q. I'm going to ask you to hand Mr. Foley Government Exhibit
20 101B as well as the JD names associated with that individual,
21 and just describe for the jury what you're handing Mr. Foley.

22 A. I am handing Mr. Mial's government name on the foam board
23 along with two JD names that I assigned to Mr. Mial during the
24 course of this investigation to him.

25 Q. What were those two JD names?

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 A. JD names are Eyes and Smooth.

2 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could please just affix those to the top
3 right corner of the Velcro board -- excuse me. The top left
4 corner.

5 Next, I want to move to Government Exhibit 102B, which
6 is in evidence as the name plate for Johnny Perez and the JD
7 name associated with Johnny Perez. If you could pull those
8 two.

9 Okay. And if you could just describe for the jury
10 what two name plates you just pulled out.

11 A. The two foam name plates I have in my hand is Johnny Perez,
12 JD Ghost is what I called him during the course of this
13 investigation. And I have both name plates.

14 Q. You can hand those to Mr. Foley.

15 Mr. Foley, if you could place those at the top middle
16 of the Velcro board.

17 You testified a moment ago that those were the two
18 individuals from whom you know the government names. I just
19 want to walk through the other JD names that you're familiar
20 with. Beginning with what's been marked as Government Exhibit
21 103D, which in evidence as the name plate for Duke, did you
22 know of any other JD names associated with Duke?

23 A. Yes. On the very first buy I did with JD Duke, I did not
24 know his street name "Duke," so I called him JD Heavy. And I
25 have the name plate for him right here.

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. And did you purchase narcotics from JD Duke, also known as
2 JD Heavy throughout this particular investigation?

3 A. I did.

4 Q. If you could hand those to Mr. Foley, Mr. Foley could put
5 those in the top right corner.

6 And while he's doing that, Detective Murphy, I'm going
7 to ask you to find Government Exhibit 104C, which is in
8 evidence.

9 What name is reflected on Government Exhibit 104C?

10 A. Harlem.

11 Q. Who do you know JD Harlem to be?

12 A. JD Harlem is an individual I had several purchases with
13 during the course of this investigation.

14 Q. If you could please hand that name plate to Mr. Foley.

15 Mr. Foley, if you could put that kind of in the middle
16 of the board, creating a second row below Johnny Perez, JD
17 Duke. Leave some space. Great.

18 Next, 105C, which is in evidence as a Government
19 Exhibit.

20 What JD name is on Government Exhibit 105C?

21 A. The name Tre, T-R-E.

22 Q. And who is JD Tre?

23 A. JD Tre is another person who I purchased it narcotics off
24 of multiple times during the course of this investigation.

25 Q. And again, if you could hand that to Mr. Foley.

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 And, Mr. Foley, you could put that in the middle of
2 the middle row.

3 And Detective Murphy, we're going to move to 106C,
4 which is in evidence as a government exhibit.

5 What JD name is on 106C?

6 A. 106C is JD Mac, M-A-C. And he is an individual who I
7 purchased multiple times from during the course of this
8 investigation.

9 Q. Mr. Foley, again, if you could take that from Detective
10 Murphy and place it on the board.

11 And, Detective Murphy, we'll go to 107C next.

12 What JD name is reflected on 107C?

13 A. JD Trinny, T-R-I-N-N-Y. He's an individual I purchased
14 narcotics from multiple times during the course of this
15 investigation.

16 Q. Okay. Hand that to Mr. Foley and pull out 108C.

17 And what JD name is reflected on 108C?

18 A. JD Tattoo. He's another subject of whom I purchased
19 narcotics from multiple times during the course of this
20 investigation.

21 Q. And for the last time, I'll ask Mr. Foley to take that from
22 you and place it on the board.

23 So, as Mr. Foley was placing those on the board, you
24 said that these are individuals from whom you've purchased
25 narcotics.

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 Generally speaking, over the course of this
2 investigation, where did those purchases occur?

3 A. The majority of the purchases happened within a block or
4 two of 8th Avenue and 43rd Street.

5 Q. And are those particular locations reflected in that last
6 column on Government Exhibit 3004, which I believe is still
7 published on the jury's screens?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Now, the locations on this chart, are they exact locations?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Why not?

12 A. Out on the street while I'm purchasing, a lot of times
13 we're walking, or even if we're standing still I can't always
14 stare at the exact building number I'm standing in front of, so
15 I use the building number within a building or two that I know
16 from knowing the area.

17 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could show just the witness, counsel, and
18 the Court what's been marked for identification as Government
19 Exhibit 3006.

20 THE COURT: And same request that it be enlarged.

21 MS. NICOLAS: I think this one might be okay, your
22 Honor.

23 Can you enlarge the middle part of that screen,
24 Mr. Foley.

25 I'm also going to ask you to hand to the witness the

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 physical exhibit that is marked as Government Exhibit 3006
2 without showing the jury.

3 Q. Detective Murphy, have you seen Government Exhibit 3006
4 before?

5 A. I have.

6 Q. Generally speaking, what is this?

7 A. This is a map, an overview of the location of Midtown.
8 Specifically, it has all the locations of my purchases.

9 Q. Now, did you review the locations that are marked on
10 Government Exhibit 3006 prior to your testimony today?

11 A. Yes, I did.

12 Q. Okay. And does Government Exhibit 3006 represent a fair
13 and accurate depiction of the area near Times Square where you
14 purchased narcotics, as well as the locations of those
15 narcotics purchases?

16 A. Yes. It's an overview map of the area where I purchased,
17 and the locations.

18 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, the government offers what's
19 been marked as Government Exhibit 3004 into evidence.

20 THE COURT: 3006.

21 MS. NICOLAS: Excuse me. 3006.

22 THE COURT: Any objection?

23 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

24 THE COURT: Received.

25 (Government Exhibit 3006 received in evidence)

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 BY MS. NICOLAS:

2 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could both place the physical exhibit on
3 the easel and then publish for the jury what's in evidence as
4 Government Exhibit 3006.

5 So before we begin talking about particular buys here,
6 again, could you just—now that they can see it—explain for
7 the jury the area that's depicted in this map?

8 A. If you're looking at the map, top side of the map is
9 northbound, the bottom side is south, the left side is west,
10 the right side is east. If you look where all the red dots
11 are—you can't really see the corner because there's so
12 many—that's the corner of 43rd Street and 8th Avenue. Each of
13 these little markers are a location in which I purchased
14 narcotics. Some of them are outside of that little area, but
15 most of them are at the corner of 43rd and 8th.

16 Q. So those marks are two different colors.

17 Can you explain the difference in the colors?

18 A. The yellow color are the purchases I made from Mr. Mial, JD
19 Smooth. The red color are purchases I made from other subjects
20 involved in this case.

21 Q. Mr. Foley, can you publish side by side what is Government
22 Exhibits 3004 and 3006. And then could you just zoom in on
23 Government Exhibit 3004 just on the first column, perhaps the
24 first five transactions. First column. Perfect.

25 Okay. Detective Murphy, could you explain the

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 significance of the numbers of the flags that appear in
2 Government Exhibit 3006?

3 A. The transaction number which you see as the left column,
4 first column on the exhibit is the number of which buy. The
5 number that is on the left column of that sheet corresponds to
6 the number that is tagged on these flags. One through five
7 would be very difficult to see because they were at the corner.
8 But if you look at the buy, 65, you could see that on the west
9 side of the map. It's on the left side of the map.

10 THE COURT: May I just interject with a question?

11 This may be on the minds of some jurors, but where a
12 bubble or indicator is covered up by others, is there a way of
13 removing the top one so one can actually see the ones
14 underneath?

15 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure.

16 Q. If someone wanted to know the exact location of a
17 transaction, where on Government Exhibit 3004 could they look.

18 And Mr. Foley, if you could go back to the full
19 Government Exhibit 3004.

20 A. The exact location of the buy is on the right side of the
21 exhibit where it says "buy location." That will give you the
22 exact street building number which will correspond to the
23 little bubble on the map. But unfortunately, on the map, it's
24 hard to see every single buy location because they're all in
25 the same area.

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 THE COURT: Very good. Thank you for the explanation.

2 Q. All right. We're going to come back to both of these
3 charts a number of times.

4 But, Mr. Foley, you can pull them down for now.

5 Detective Murphy, in front of you—we've talked about
6 this binder before—there's a large binder marked "Government
7 Exhibits." Inside there, I'm going to ask you to flip to
8 what's been marked for identification as Government Exhibits
9 301 to 308.

10 A. Okay.

11 Q. Have you looked at Government Exhibit 301 to 308?

12 A. Yes, I have.

13 Q. And do you recognize these?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Generally speaking, what are Government Exhibit 301 through
16 308?

17 A. Each exhibit is a different photograph of the area on which
18 I made purchases, specifically the area of 8th Avenue and 43rd
19 Street.

20 Q. Before we proceed, Mr. Foley, if you could please publish
21 for the witness, the Court, and the parties the electronic
22 versions of 301 and 308 and flip through those.

23 Detective Murphy, have you seen those photographs
24 before?

25 A. Yes.

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. Are they fair and accurate depictions of the area along 8th
2 Avenue where you purchased narcotics during the course of this
3 investigation?

4 A. The buildings and structures, yes. Cars change and the
5 people change, but it is a fair and accurate representation of
6 the streets.

7 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, the government offers
8 Government Exhibit 301 to 308 into evidence.

9 THE COURT: Any objection?

10 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

11 THE COURT: They're all received.

12 (Government Exhibits 301-308 received into evidence)

13 BY MS. NICOLAS:

14 Q. I want to take a moment to orient the jury to the area that
15 we're talking about near Times Square.

16 Mr. Foley, if you could please publish what's in
17 evidence as Government Exhibit 301.

18 At a high level, could you just describe for the jury
19 what this strip of 43rd is like?

20 A. This strip of 43rd Street, specifically this photo of it,
21 you're facing 8th Avenue. So you're just west of 8th Avenue.
22 You can see the corner in the picture of 8th Avenue. 43rd
23 Street runs from east to west. So the photo is being taken as
24 though your back is towards 9th Avenue. This area is mixed
25 residential and commercial. There are residences on this block

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 and there are commercial establishments, like Chick-fil-A,
2 which you could see on the right side of the screen.

3 Q. So walking through some of the businesses that are along
4 this street --

5 Mr. Foley, if you could publish what's in evidence as
6 Government Exhibit 302.

7 As you begin walking down 43rd, can you just describe
8 the businesses that you'll encounter?

9 A. Yes. This is still on 43rd, just west of 8th Avenue. It's
10 a little closer to 8th Avenue. You cannot see 8th Avenue in
11 the photo, but it would be on the right side of the photo.

12 This is facing northbound, so this is the north side of the
13 street. You can see the 99-cent pizza there. To the right of
14 that is the deli, which is the actual corner of 43rd Street and
15 8th Avenue. That deli is on the northwest corner.

16 Q. Were there times during this investigation when you
17 purchased narcotics at this location?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. More than once?

20 A. Yes. Whether I -- I have met subjects there and walked off
21 to another location, and I've also purchased narcotics there.

22 Q. Mr. Foley, could you publish Government Exhibit 303.

23 Continuing a little bit further down the street, can
24 you just describe this establishment?

25 A. This is the deli that's on the northwest corner of 43rd

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 Street and 8th Avenue. It's a closer picture to 8th Avenue.

2 Here, you can start to see the crosswalk on the right side of
3 the screen. That's the crosswalk across 8th Avenue.

4 Q. And over the course of the investigation, what did you
5 observe at this location in general?

6 A. I observed different subjects involved in this case hanging
7 out in the vicinity of this deli.

8 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could publish Government Exhibit 304.

9 As compared to the last photograph in Government
10 Exhibit 303, where is this location?

11 A. This location is the opposite side of the street of the
12 deli, so this would be the southwest corner. We are still just
13 west of 8th Avenue. If you look on the left side of the
14 screen, you can see the 8th Avenue running north and south.
15 This is the Chick-fil-A, which I had previously mentioned in
16 the other photograph.

17 Q. Government Exhibit 305, Mr. Foley.

18 Continuing, if you could just describe where this
19 photograph is relative to the last and what you see here?

20 A. In this photograph, you'll notice is the Westin Hotel. And
21 next to it is a small cafe, which is attached to the
22 Westin Hotel. This is the southeast corner of 43rd Street and
23 8th Avenue. So in this photograph, we have now passed over 8th
24 Avenue. And then you can see 43rd Street on the left side of
25 your screen running east to west.

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. Were there times during the course of this investigation
2 where you encountered subjects in this investigation here at
3 this establishment?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. In particular, who did you encounter here?

6 A. I met with Mr. Mial right at that cafe where the chairs are
7 outside.

8 Q. If we can move to Government Exhibit 306, Mr. Foley.

9 And we changed perspective here a bit. Can you orient
10 the jury to what this photograph is now capturing?

11 A. Okay. This photograph is now capturing the Westin from a
12 different angle. We are now east of 8th Avenue facing
13 westbound, so going with vehicle traffic; whereas before, we
14 were going against vehicle traffic. So our back would be back
15 towards Broadway, 7th Avenue, and we're facing 8th Avenue. On
16 the left side of the screen is the Westin that was just
17 depicted on the last photo, just the opposite corner of the
18 building, the other side of the building.

19 Q. Where is the Chick-fil-A?

20 A. The Chick-fil-A you can see straight ahead of you, it's the
21 big white building. See the little police cars parked on the
22 corner -- police vans?

23 Q. We can go to Government Exhibit 307.

24 Okay. How has our perspective changed here?

25 A. From the last photo, if you took a 90-degree turn to the

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 right, you'd be looking northbound. This is the north side of
2 43rd Street, just east of 8th Avenue. This is the Times Square
3 Hotel. It's a hotel on the north side of 43rd, a little bit
4 opposite the Westin. It's kind of kitty-corner if you walk at
5 an angle from the Westin, you would land here at this hotel.

6 Q. Can you describe the Times Square Hotel?

7 A. The Times Square Hotel is used as a shelter for individuals
8 who have fallen on hard times. They have single occupancy
9 rooms where one individual lives in each room. It's a small
10 little room, I think a studio apartment with a bathroom and a
11 bed.

12 Q. Mr. Foley, Government Exhibit 308.

13 And again, if you could orient us to what we're
14 looking at in Government Exhibit 308?

15 A. We're now looking eastbound towards 7th Avenue. You can
16 see on the left side of the screen the bricks, that's all part
17 of the Times Square Hotel. And just under the scaffolding
18 right there it says "psychic," there's a small, little ATM
19 there. It's hard to see on the photo, but there's an ATM
20 there. This is the north side of 43rd Street. On the right
21 side of the screen where the other scaffolding is, that's the
22 south side of 43rd Street.

23 Q. Over the course of this investigation, were there times you
24 purchased narcotics in the area depicted on the screen in
25 Government Exhibit 308?

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 A. Yes. On -- under both scaffoldings during the course of
2 this investigation, I had purchased narcotics. So both on the
3 north side and the south side of 43rd Street.

4 Q. Were there times over the course of this investigation when
5 you purchased narcotics from the defendant in the location
6 depicted on the screen in Government Exhibit 308?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could just place side by side Government
9 Exhibits 301 and 308.

10 And again, before we move on, if you could just
11 clarify and orient the jury to the location in which many of
12 these case buys happened as these two photos compare?

13 A. The case buys happened all -- not all the case buys. The
14 majority of the case buys happened from where you're standing
15 on 301, the picture on the left side of the screen, up into the
16 scaffoldings, which you see on 308 on the right side of the
17 screen. That is the main area of which I met these subjects.
18 Some buys happened a little west on 43rd, so west of the photo
19 on the left; and a couple buys happened on completely different
20 blocks.

21 Q. Is the area in Government Exhibit 308 visible in Government
22 Exhibit 301?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Where is it?

25 A. If you look at the direct center of Exhibit 301—that's the

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 photo on the left side of the screen—if you follow where that
2 police car is and you follow that sidewalk, which it's hard to
3 see the sidewalk, but straight back, you could see the big,
4 tall building on the corner, that's where the Times Square
5 Hotel is, just past that corner. And the Westin is on the
6 opposite side of the street on the other corner.

7 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, if we may have a brief
8 sidebar.

9 THE COURT: Yes.

10 MS. NICOLAS: Mr. Foley, you can pull these down.

11 (Continued on next page)
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MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 (At sidebar)

2 THE COURT: Yes?

3 MS. NICOLAS: Just a suggestion: We're about to start
4 walking through the buys. This may be a good time to break.

5 THE COURT: I'm going to give a slightly longer break.
6 There's an issue or two I want to take up with you and I have
7 something I have to be at between 1 and 2, so I'll have them
8 come back at 2 o'clock.

9 (Continued on next page)

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MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

(In open court)

THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, we're going to use this as an opportunity to take our lunch break now. I'm going to take a slightly longer lunch break because of a couple matters I have to take up with counsel. It's a little after 12:40. I'll see you back at 2 o'clock. So be in the jury room at 2 o'clock. Mr. Smallman will bring you out then.

Have a good lunch. As always, please don't discuss the case.

(Continued on next page)

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 (Jury not present)

2 THE COURT: I've instructed counsel to have the sign
3 taken away from the court. There should be nothing out of
4 the ordinary as the jury passes by.

5 All right. Be seated.

6 Ms. Nicolas, thank you for the heads up. I was
7 looking for a natural break. It would have been soon. This
8 sounds like a good one.

9 A couple things that came up during the examination
10 which were unobjected to, and they were not objectionable, but
11 they raised issues I want to flag for counsel. One issue is
12 that the witness made a reference to charges. He made a
13 reference to who was charged in the case. And I understand
14 that he was apparently doing so in an effort to draw parameters
15 around who was within or outside the scope of the buys that
16 he's included within the 67.

17 I don't expect there will be any further examination
18 of witnesses as to who was charged. Is that your intention?

19 MS. NICOLAS: This is my intention, your Honor. And,
20 frankly, I don't think there's anything that -- he was not
21 involved in the arrest, so I certainly do not --

22 THE COURT: No. I appreciate it. And there's an
23 instruction at the end of the day that the jury is not to
24 speculate on who was charged and who wasn't and what became of
25 all that, but ultimately it's better that there not be any

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 testimony along those lines. It passed by in a blink. I just
2 want to make sure that that's out of bounds for further
3 questioning.

4 MS. NICOLAS: Yes, your Honor.

5 THE COURT: And Mr. McGuinness, anything further on
6 that discrete point?

7 MR. MCGUINNESS: No, your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Okay. The second issue that came out was
9 as follows:

10 The witness was asked in the context of longer term
11 undercover investigations what his goals were. One of the
12 goals that he identified was purchasing enough narcotics,
13 presumably as to a particular person but, in any event, enough
14 narcotics to achieve certain sentencing consequences.

15 I understand that the spirit of that offer was
16 intended to allow him to explain why certain goals are set.
17 And there wasn't an objection to it. And it certainly was
18 useful for the jury to hear it insofar as it just explains why
19 there are particular targets. Nevertheless, it obviously opens
20 up a potential can of worms.

21 First of all, do you expect any further testimony on
22 direct about that subject?

23 MS. NICOLAS: No, your Honor. It was not our intent
24 to elicit that answer on that point. There's certainly no
25 other questioning related to --

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 THE COURT: Well, was there any intention, as you
2 understand it in this case, for purchases to be made up until
3 the point at which they crossed what somebody believed to be a
4 relative sentencing rubicon?

5 MS. NICOLAS: I certainly think that that's part of
6 the investigatory quest here in a narcotics investigation. I
7 think particular to this witness, his understanding of the
8 goals at the outset of the investigation were, frankly, driven
9 by an understanding of state law, so I don't even think he was
10 referring to (b)(1)(A) (b)(1)(B) type plea.

11 THE COURT: This was as the undercover operation was
12 going on, but it was not federally directed but was state
13 directed?

14 MS. NICOLAS: Correct.

15 THE COURT: Right. I guess the question would be --
16 assuming that there was a permissible question along these
17 lines, if he was asked the question, "In your dealings with the
18 overall group or with any particular member of it, were you
19 instructed to make purchases up to any particular threshold,"
20 what would the answer be?

21 MS. NICOLAS: I am frankly not sure, your Honor, what
22 his direct answer would be if asked if he was directed to buy
23 particular amounts from particular individuals. I think his
24 answer would be more along the lines of an understanding of the
25 organization at large and buying from those who were present

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 when he arrived on the block.

2 THE COURT: I mean, I guess the question is, while I
3 understand him to have been testifying in general about his
4 *motus operandi*, it sounds as if that feature of it is somewhat
5 disconnected from the facts of this case. You don't
6 understand, for example, that, even if his dealings with
7 Mr. Mial or more generally, he was shopping until he filled
8 up -- he crossed some particular weight line?

9 Is that your understanding?

10 MS. NICOLAS: That is my understanding.

11 THE COURT: All right. And you don't intend to elicit
12 anything further about that subject?

13 MS. NICOLAS: No.

14 THE COURT: All right. Mr. McGuinness, you didn't
15 object, and that's fine, and it may be that it's just best left
16 alone, but do you have any views on this subject?

17 MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor. It did strike me as
18 a considerable statement. I did not object to it because I
19 believe it's fertile ground for cross-examination, and I
20 believe that's opened the door for cross-examination.

21 THE COURT: Well, it may have, but I want to work
22 through this with you.

23 What do you have in mind?

24 MR. MCGUINNESS: To be honest, I'm still formulating
25 it. This was not a pre-thought-out cross-examination topic.

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 THE COURT: Let me just say the following:

2 The one thing that, without explicit permission the
3 Court, is clearly out of bounds would be anything that
4 indicates to the jury what the sentencing consequences are of
5 any quantity. And so it may or may not be permissible for you
6 to examine whether he was purchasing to get to some particular
7 level. You may or may not be allowed to inquire whether in
8 this case he had instructions to clear some quantity. But I do
9 not want in any way, shape, or form any questioning to suggest
10 anything about what the consequences would be of those
11 quantities. I think it may be that the government's
12 questioning opened the door to whether that was a motivation
13 here, that is to say to buy a particular quantity. But I do
14 not want the legal consequences anywhere close to me
15 questioning.

16 Do you understand that?

17 MR. MCGUINNESS: I do, your Honor. And I will say
18 that it seems fair game that the purpose of continuing to buy
19 was to increase the consequences against the individuals.
20 Without getting into specifics, I think those lines of
21 questions I would hope are in bounds.

22 THE COURT: Well, I'd like to think over the lunch
23 break what you have in mind, because I don't disagree with you
24 that some door may have been opened there that otherwise might
25 have been closed. However, it requires some attention and

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 forethought before I can rule as to what the ground rules are
2 here. I know for certain that the actual sentencing
3 consequences are out of bounds. The closer question involves
4 the extent to which his instructions in this particular case
5 are fair game.

6 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, if I may, I do think that
7 the testimony -- without looking at the transcript, I do think
8 the testimony continued that he was buying up in an effort to
9 learn the nature and the extent of the conspiracy and to decide
10 when who had the authority to sell what and when. And so I do
11 think he directly addressed his motivations for why he was
12 buying increasing amounts over the investigation.

13 THE COURT: The problem is that he established --
14 before that, he said, without specific reference to this case,
15 that purchasing, because of the penal consequences, is a thing,
16 it is sometimes a motivation. I appreciate that you then
17 inquired as to this case. And that was not elicited as a
18 motivation.

19 Nonetheless, with the door having been opened perhaps
20 by defense counsel, that's what cross-examination is for. And
21 maybe defense counsel doesn't believe that. And just because
22 he says it doesn't mean it has to be taken as gospel.
23 Candidly, had he volunteered that, you'd be in a better
24 position to close off examination on that point. I think with
25 the door having been opened, it's a little more permissible for

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 Mr. McGuinness to inquire. But I want to put some tight
2 parameters on it, because what I don't want is the jury to be
3 speculating, which I would be instructing them at the end that
4 they not consider as to what the punishment consequences are.
5 I've already instructed them during jury selection that that's
6 not a matter for the jury, and I will be further instructing
7 them, consistent with the standard instruction, to that effect
8 at the end of the case. So I don't want any notion of that.

9 That being said, we'll welcome counsel's views as to
10 whether on cross-examination Mr. Murphy can be asked whether he
11 was trying to clear some quantity in the purchases from a
12 particular person or the group. Why don't you all reflect on
13 that over the lunch break.

14 May I just ask, what's the overall quantity that was
15 bought from Mr. Mial, and what's the overall quantity that was
16 bought from the group?

17 MS. NICOLAS: The gram amount is not on the top of my
18 head, your Honor. I will say that the defendant directly sold
19 on 17 of the 67 buys and was involved in either pointing the
20 purchasers to other members of the crew or setting up the
21 purchase by text message in advance. So for nearly a third of
22 the transactions, he was, in fact --

23 THE COURT: Right. Do you know, though, the
24 approximate weight of those transactions?

25 MS. NICOLAS: For the direct buys, it sounds like 10

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 grams of about 60 total grams that were sold. So the UC came
2 from the defendant.

3 THE COURT: Okay. All right. That's helpful to know.
4 And so at the end of the day, the (b)(1)(A) quantity that you
5 will be asking the jury to find is that one has to go beyond
6 the aggravating the 67 buys to get there.

7 MS. NICOLAS: Yes, absolutely, your Honor.

8 THE COURT: And I understand there are various
9 arguments to be made in that direction. Okay. That's helpful
10 to know.

11 All right. Mr. McGuinness, give some thought to that
12 because you may get a little bit of a leash here, it's not
13 going to be an endless one, and I want to talk through that
14 with you outside the presence of the jury before cross begins.

15 Ms. Nicolas, are we likely to begin cross today?

16 MS. NICOLAS: I would say we're about halfway through.
17 I do expect that things will start to move faster during the
18 second half of his testimony today. I do think we will
19 probably start cross today.

20 THE COURT: I mean, you've got about two hours and 40
21 minutes on the clock. Do you think --

22 MS. NICOLAS: I think we'll get to the beginning of
23 cross, your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. And then there's some time
25 sensitivity to think through this issue.

MAI7MIA4

Murphy - Direct

1 I'll see you all 5 minutes before 2.

2 Thank you.

3 THE DEPUTY CLERK: All rise.

4 (Luncheon recess)

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AFTERNOON SESSION

2:00 p.m.

(In open court; jury not present)

THE COURT: Be seated.

Mr. McGuinness, your client is not here.

MR. MCGUINNESS: I got a text from him that he was coming up at 1:51. He may have crossed paths with some of the jurors in the elevator, and he's trying not to cross paths.

THE COURT: He needs to be here on time.

MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor.

THE COURT: A short colloquy about the legal issue, and then we'll get the witness in the box.

Once the jury is in the box, the government should have the person outside the door and the sign on the door.

Briefly, have you given any thought, Mr. McGuinness, as to whether there is any proper cross driven off of the witness's testimony on direct about sometimes being -- the operational design of some longer term programs being aimed at drug quantity.

MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor. The questions I intend to offer on cross-examination are basically to reiterate and underscore the statement he's already made, which is that as part of long-term drug investigation, he increases the quantity purchased because it leads to more serious charges, and that is something that he tries do in cases, and that in

MAIQmia5

1 this particular case he determined the amount that was sold by
2 asking for amounts, and they were in far excess of a typical
3 transaction.

4 THE COURT: And that would be the extent of the cross?

5 MR. McGUINNESS: That's all I have planned. If he
6 volunteers anything, your Honor, I may ask another followup.

7 THE COURT: Government, I think all of those points
8 were, in essence, brought out in direct.

9 MS. NICOLAS: Well, your Honor, I don't think the
10 testimony was that it's driven because it affects charges. I
11 think that he said that it can affect charges. And what's
12 reflected in the 3500 from our most recent conversation with
13 him is that the amount that he buys is primarily driven --
14 that's what I would expect he would testify -- primarily driven
15 by an effort of him to understand the nature of the
16 organization.

17 THE COURT: Who will be -- who decided in this case,
18 him or somebody else, when to stop buying?

19 MS. NICOLAS: I think that's a decision that was made,
20 to stop buying, in conjunction between the investigators and
21 the U.S. Attorney's Office. What he I believe would testify --

22 THE COURT: As long as this board is here blocking me,
23 I need someone to block the door to make sure we don't have
24 that happen again.

25 Go ahead.

MAIQmia5

1 MS. NICOLAS: I think what he will testify, and what
2 is reflected in 3500, is that he is not involved in the
3 decision of stopping, starting, and making charging decisions.
4 He is tasked with go to the block and make a buy. He makes
5 buys that he's comfortable within the scope of his
6 understanding of the organization, and that at times he may be
7 directed to try to buy from particular individuals, but,
8 generally speaking, he buys from whoever is available.

9 THE COURT: That's all fine and good, and you're at
10 liberty to elicit that.

11 I guess the question is, Mr. McGuinness, you want to
12 elicit -- because the witness brought it out on direct -- and
13 the defendant is here.

14 Mr. Mial, this can't happen again.

15 THE DEFENDANT: Absolutely not.

16 THE COURT: You need to be here on time.

17 THE DEFENDANT: Absolutely. Sorry.

18 THE COURT: Look, Mr. McGuinness wants to, I think,
19 elicit that since you're following up on the direct, that there
20 are cases in which drug -- the design of the program aims to
21 achieve a certain drug quantity. I think that much was
22 established on direct; not specifically this case, but in
23 general, correct?

24 MS. NICOLAS: I think that's right, your Honor, but I
25 do think the government has some concern about the territory in

MAIQmia5

1 which that brings and not knowing how he'll be asked or will
2 answer on cross. He did not mention sentencing. He did not
3 mention punitive anything.

4 THE COURT: Look, Mr. McGuinness, there can't be a
5 word about sentencing, period. There can't be a word about
6 anything like that. There cannot be a word about punishment
7 turning on any of this. However, it seems to me -- let's wait
8 for the government -- it seems to me that given the door that
9 the government kicked open here, even if it was the witness and
10 not the government counsel, it is appropriate for you to
11 explore the operational design of this investigation.

12 But that being said, I don't want word one about
13 sentencing, about punitive consequences, anything like that.
14 And if ultimately the answer is there wasn't an aspiration here
15 or design that was quantity driven, you've got to move on.
16 Understood?

17 MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Ms. Nicolas, is that a fair line to draw?

19 MS. NICOLAS: I mean, I do think we still have
20 concerns about the suggestion that more serious -- I think the
21 very common sense inference is that a more serious charge
22 carries a more serious sentence.

23 THE COURT: I just told him he can't ask about
24 sentencing or charging. All I've authorized him to explore is
25 the operational design of this program. Frankly, the way the

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1 record has been left now by the examination, the jury might
2 well infer that because he volunteered the idea that there are
3 times when you buy with the goal of approaching some number,
4 the door has not been clearly slammed on that.

5 Candidly, this examination, whether it's restarted on
6 the rest of direct or accomplished on cross or on redirect, may
7 from your perspective afford the jury clarity on a point that
8 is right now hazy. My point is punishment and sentence cannot
9 be hinted at or referred to, but the programmatic design here
10 of whether he was managing to a number and who decided or
11 whether he decided or somebody else is, I think, fair game
12 given the way the door opened.

13 MS. NICOLAS: Totally agree, your Honor. We just want
14 to make sure that any suggestion about seriousness of charges
15 is covered by your instruction on sentencing.

16 THE COURT: Absolutely. And that will be shut down by
17 strong words if there is any suggestion of that. That is
18 clearly outside his ken. And he did not open the door to that.

19 MR. MCGUINNESS: Your Honor, I just want to be clear.
20 My question I posed that I thought was cleared by the Court
21 whether in long-term operations he purchased additional weight
22 to lead to more serious charges. And I got that phrase from
23 what he said on direct.

24 THE COURT: I think he did say that on direct.

25 Ms. Nicolas, just as a descriptive matter, that's

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1 correct, is it not?

2 MS. NICOLAS: My recollection was that the testimony
3 was that it affects charges, but, again, I'm not positive what
4 he said.

5 THE COURT: Look, if you're going to say anything like
6 that, you may have --

7 MR. McGUINNESS: I'm trying to --

8 THE COURT: You know what? I think I would rather you
9 focus on what happened in this case. No other case is at issue
10 here, and while he made what appears to have been an untoward
11 slip in volunteering about other cases, the relevant issue is
12 what happened here. So what I would ask you to do is explore
13 what happened here; but for the time being, I don't want any
14 reference to charges or sentences, okay?

15 MR. McGUINNESS: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: Okay. Very good.

17 Anything before we get the jury or anything before we
18 get the witness?

19 MS. NICOLAS: Nothing from the government.

20 THE COURT: The jury is here. Let's get the witness
21 in the box, and then I'll have Mr. Smallman get the jury.

22 Mr. Smallman, get the jury. And, meanwhile,
23 government, set the precautions at the door.

24 (Continued on next page)
25

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(Jury present)

THE COURT: Welcome back, ladies and gentlemen.

Please be seated. We'll resume now with the examination of Officer Murphy.

Officer Murphy, I'll remind you, you are still under oath.

THE WITNESS: Yes.

THE COURT: Counsel, you may inquire.

MS. NICOLAS: Thank you, your Honor.

BY MS. NICOLAS:

Q. Detective Murphy, welcome back.

Mr. Foley, could you please publish for the witness and the parties, as well as the jury, Government Exhibit 3004. After you've done that, Mr. Foley, I'm going to ask you to zoom in on that first, let's say, three rows. Thank you.

Detective Murphy, I want to focus here and direct your attention to what is contained in the row marked USAO transaction number 1. When did that transaction occur?

A. It happened on December 3, 2019.

Q. And can you just describe in broad terms what happened that day?

A. On that day, we were doing case buy operations into this case, and I went to the corner of 43rd Street and 8th Avenue in an attempt to purchase crack cocaine.

Q. On that day, what did you purchase?

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1 A. On that day, I purchased two twists of crack cocaine for
2 \$40 from a person I named JD Ghost, Mr. Johnny Perez.

3 Q. We've looked at this already briefly. Mr. Foley, if you
4 could please publish what's in evidence as Government Exhibit
5 201P, and please go to the second page.

6 Detective Murphy, this is Exhibit 201 if you'd like to
7 look at the hard copy in the box behind you.

8 Just zoom in, if you could, on box 1, Mr. Foley.

9 Detective Murphy, what's contained within Government
10 Exhibit 201?

11 A. This is the narcotics I purchased on December 3 from
12 JD Ghost.

13 Q. Now, on that particular day, was the purchase audio and
14 video recorded?

15 A. I attempted to video record and audio record the purchase,
16 but, unfortunately, the video failed, the video equipment I had
17 on my person.

18 Q. When did you realize the equipment had failed?

19 A. Later that night back at the station house as I was
20 processing the equipment.

21 Q. Once you realized there had been a failure, what did you
22 do?

23 A. I notified my supervisor that there was a failure, and we
24 made plans to go out on the next night to purchase again.

25 Q. Did you in fact go out the next day to make another

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1 purchase?

2 A. I did.

3 Q. Mr. Foley, if we could turn back to Government Exhibit
4 3004, please.

5 On that next day, what was the date?

6 A. The date was December 4, 2019.

7 Q. On that particular day, who did you purchase narcotics
8 from?

9 A. Again, I purchased narcotics from JD Ghost, and I bought
10 three twists of crack cocaine for \$60 of U.S. currency.

11 Q. Can you remind the jury what other name do you know
12 JD Ghost by?

13 A. Mr. Johnny Perez.

14 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please publish what's in evidence as
15 Government Exhibit 402A and just play the first two or three
16 seconds.

17 (Video played)

18 Q. Thank you. This is the first video we've watched,
19 Detective Murphy. Can you just explain before we talk about
20 the substance, what we're looking at here? What's the
21 orientation of this camera?

22 A. This camera is on my person. It is videoing the front of
23 me. As I face the jury now, it would be videoing you guys. On
24 the video, you could see on the bottom right is a timestamp.
25 On the equipment that I have, it's -- the timestamp is usually

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1 unreliable. Sometimes it's right. Sometimes it's wrong. And
2 this is accurate video of what I'm looking at.

3 Q. So as you're looking here, do you recall where you are in
4 New York City?

5 A. Yes. Where this is freeze frozen -- frame is frozen is the
6 south side of 43rd Street, just west of 8th Avenue. It's
7 opposite the early photos you've seen of the pizzeria and the
8 deli. It's just west of Chick-fil-A.

9 Q. Before I have Mr. Foley play the remainder of this clip,
10 can you describe what happens next?

11 A. What happens next is I meet up with JD Ghost, the person I
12 purchased from on the prior day. We have a short conversation,
13 and then Mr. Ghost, JD Ghost sells me crack cocaine.

14 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could go ahead and play the clip
15 beginning at six seconds.

16 (Video played)

17 Q. If you could move backwards two seconds.

18 The video is paused at ten seconds into the clip.
19 Detective Murphy, do you recognize this individual?

20 A. Yes. This individual that's depicted on my video is Johnny
21 Perez, the person I labeled JD Ghost.

22 Q. Detective Murphy, next to you, I think under your
23 Government Exhibit binder, there's a stack of Government
24 Exhibits, one of them marked as Government Exhibit 102B.

25 A. 102A?

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1 Q. 102B. Excuse me, 102A, you're correct.

2 A. Yes, I have 102A in my hands.

3 Q. All right. What is 102A?

4 A. 102A is a foam board with JD Ghost, Mr. Johnny Perez's
5 photo on it, taken from, it appears, this video here.

6 Q. Is that a fair and accurate depiction of the image that's
7 on the screen?

8 A. Yes.

9 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, at this time the government
10 offers Government Exhibit 102A.

11 THE COURT: Any objection?

12 MR. McGUINNESS: No objection.

13 THE COURT: Received.

14 (Government's Exhibit 102A received in evidence)

15 Q. Detective Murphy, I'm going to ask you to hand that to
16 Mr. Foley. Mr. Foley, if you could affix that right below the
17 JD name or JD Ghost.

18 Beginning at ten seconds, Mr. Foley, I'm going to ask
19 you to continue to play this clip, and then pause it when I ask
20 you to.

21 (Video played)

22 Q. During that conversation, when Ghost said, "I already
23 served you," what did you understand that to mean?

24 A. He was talking about the prior night when I purchased crack
25 cocaine off of him.

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1 Q. During this particular conversation, did JD Ghost have any
2 particular nickname for you?

3 A. They called me Narcotics. In the early part of the video,
4 you briefly heard someone say, "Oh, that's Narcotics." On the
5 prior night, they called me Narcotics. They thought I might
6 have been a police officer.

7 Q. Did you purchase narcotics during this interaction?

8 A. Yes, I did.

9 Q. Over the course of the investigation, were there occasions
10 when you were directed to purchase drugs from this individual
11 by other people; that is, did anyone direct you to purchase
12 from Ghost?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Mr. Foley, you can pull this one down. If we could go back
15 to Government Exhibit 3004, please, Mr. Foley. I want to move
16 to the third row.

17 When did that purchase occur?

18 A. Transaction number 3?

19 Q. Yes.

20 A. Occurred on December 10, 2019.

21 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's been marked as
22 Government Exhibit 403A. Again, if you could just play the
23 first two or three seconds.

24 (Video played)

25 Q. Pausing at three seconds, Detective Murphy, can you

MAIQmia5

1 describe what area of New York City this video was recorded in?

2 A. It's very hard to tell from just that short clip. If you
3 play it for another second or two if that's possible, I would
4 be able to let you know.

5 Q. Mr. Foley, could you let it play until the second 14.

6 (Video played)

7 Q. Detective Murphy, where was this video recorded?

8 A. This video was on the corner of 42nd Street and 8th Avenue.
9 When the video first started, I was walking eastbound on the
10 north side of 42nd Street. I then turned to go northbound on
11 8th Avenue on the west side.

12 Q. As you were walking 42nd Street that day, what were you
13 doing?

14 A. I was looking for subjects that might be involved in this
15 organization.

16 Q. Where is this conversation relative to where you purchased
17 narcotics on December 4?

18 A. This is one block south of where I purchased narcotics from
19 on December 4.

20 Q. Do you recognize this individual on the screen?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Who is that?

23 A. That is a person who I named on this case to be JD Duke.

24 Q. Back in that pile next to you of government exhibits, there
25 should be a Government Exhibit marked 103A. If you could pull

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1 that out and take a look. Do you recognize that?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. What is that?

4 A. This is a foam board that has a photograph of JD Duke on
5 it.

6 Q. Is that a fair and accurate depiction of JD Duke as he
7 appears in surveillance video of narcotics purchases in this
8 case?

9 A. Yes.

10 MS. NICOLAS: At this time, your Honor, the government
11 offers Government Exhibit 103A.

12 THE COURT: Any objection?

13 MR. McGUINNESS: No objection.

14 THE COURT: Received.

15 (Government's Exhibit 103A received in evidence)

16 Q. Detective Murphy, if you could hand that to Mr. Foley so he
17 could place it on the board under the JD name Duke.

18 As you approached JD Duke on this day, December 10,
19 2019, do you recall the substance of your conversation with
20 him?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. What was discussed in this first part of the conversation?

23 A. I was attempting to purchase crack cocaine off of JD Duke.

24 Q. Do you recall what JD Duke -- how JD Duke responded to your
25 request?

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1 A. JD Duke told me to go around to the corner, and he
2 described the location. It was the same location that I had
3 purchased narcotics on the previous two buys.

4 Q. Mr. Foley, could you continue playing this clip beginning
5 at second 14 to the end.

6 (Video played)

7 Q. When JD Duke instructed you to go to the same place, what
8 did you understand that to be a reference to?

9 A. To go to the place where I purchased narcotics on prior
10 occasions.

11 Q. Did you in fact go to that place?

12 A. I did.

13 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's in evidence as
14 Government Exhibit 403 B, please.

15 (Video played)

16 Q. I'm going to ask you to play and pause this at second 28.

17 (Video played)

18 Q. We are pausing it on second 18. At this point, where are
19 you relative to where your conversation was with JD Duke?

20 A. JD Duke, when I first met him, I was on 42nd Street and 8th
21 Avenue. It's a northwest corner. There's a Duane Reade there.
22 I walked one block north and maybe 50 to a hundred feet west on
23 43rd Street where the prior two buys had taken place, and
24 that's where I am at right now.

25 Q. After you arrived in that location, did anyone meet you?

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1 A. Yes. After waiting for several minutes, JD Duke approached
2 me while standing at a spot right before I started walking
3 again on the video. You could catch a small glimpse of his
4 face on the video.

5 Q. At this point in the video, are you alone?

6 A. No, I'm with JD Duke.

7 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please continue playing up to ten
8 seconds.

9 (Video played)

10 Q. Whose voice do we hear yelling in the video?

11 A. You hear JD Duke yelling across the street.

12 Q. What did you understand him to be communicating during
13 that?

14 A. He was giving instructions to persons at this point I was
15 unable to see. He was yelling out down the street, "It's a
16 do-whatever-you-want day."

17 Q. It's a do-whatever-you-want day?

18 A. That's what it sounded like to me, yes.

19 Q. Speak closer to the microphone so we can hear you.

20 A. Sorry.

21 Q. Mr. Foley, if you can continue playing and pausing at one
22 minute ten seconds.

23 (Video played)

24 Q. Go back about one second, Mr. Foley.

25 At this point, who is participating in this

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1 conversation?

2 A. The person whose photo is on the screen right now is JD
3 Tre, and he is listening to JD Duke give him instructions.

4 Q. How do you know JD Tre?

5 A. I know JD Tre through the course of this investigation.
6 That's the name I gave him. I have several purchases into him.

7 Q. By "several purchases into him," what do you mean?

8 A. I bought narcotics off of him on multiple occasions.

9 Q. What did you understand to be happening in this interaction
10 between JD Duke and JD Tre?

11 A. JD Duke --

12 MR. McGUINNESS: Objection.

13 THE COURT: Overruled.

14 A. JD Duke was talking to JD Tre and asking him questions
15 about what he's doing, and is it do-whatever-you-want time.

16 Q. Next to you, there should be a government exhibit marked
17 105A. Do you see that marked there?

18 A. I do.

19 Q. Do you recognize that?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Who is that a photograph of?

22 A. This is a photograph of JD Tre.

23 Q. Is it a fair and accurate depiction of JD Tre as he appears
24 in the surveillance footage from this investigation?

25 A. Yes.

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1 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, the government offers
2 Government Exhibit 105A.

3 MR. McGUINNESS: No objection.

4 THE COURT: Received.

5 (Government's Exhibit 105A received in evidence)

6 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could grab 105A from Detective Murphy and
7 place it under the name JD Tre.

8 Mr. Foley, if you could restart the video beginning at
9 1:09 and pause at 1:35.

10 During that interaction, what did you understand to be
11 happening?

12 A. At this point, JD Duke instructs JD Tre to go up the block.
13 He also instructed several other street persons, potential
14 users, buyers, to follow JD Tre. I was about to walk with
15 JD Tre when I was told to stop, and I stayed with JD Duke
16 because he wanted to talk to me more.

17 Q. As you stayed with JD Duke, what did you observe JD Tre to
18 do?

19 A. He walked up the block a little bit, and then I lost sight
20 of him but he left with the other individuals there that were
21 attempting to purchase narcotics.

22 Q. As you stood with JD Duke, what happened next?

23 A. JD Duke questioned me about my appearance because my
24 appearance had changed over last purchase to this purchase, and
25 I was just talking with him about why.

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1 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could begin playing again.

2 (Video played)

3 Q. Pause 2 minutes 33 seconds.

4 Detective Murphy, can you describe what happened on
5 the video?

6 A. JD Duke was questioning me about who you knew, who knew me,
7 using names of people from the organization. As that
8 questioning went on, I just, you know, was telling him about
9 the people I knew.

10 When the other individual walked up, he was asked
11 whether he knew me or not, and you could faintly hear it on the
12 video, but he walks up to me and laughs and says, "Oh, this is
13 Narcotics." It's the street term that they had given me on my
14 prior buys, and both subjects laughed about it, and then it
15 continues.

16 Q. Did you successfully purchase narcotics on this occasion?

17 A. I did.

18 Q. Now, up until this point, what observations had you made
19 about JD Duke's interactions with others on the set?

20 A. JD Duke was clearly giving orders to persons on the street
21 and giving directions to individuals.

22 Q. How did that inform the investigative steps that you
23 decided to make?

24 A. In my mind, when I went back and spoke with the
25 investigators, it showed that JD Duke was higher up in the

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1 organization to where he was able to give orders to other
2 people.

3 Q. Did your narcotics purchases in this case continue into
4 January of 2020?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish Government Exhibit 3004
7 and zoom in on transaction 7 please.

8 Detective Murphy, what was the date of transaction 7

9 A. Transaction 7 happened on January 15, 2020.

10 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's in evidence as
11 Government Exhibit 407A.

12 (Video played)

13 Q. Before we start talking about what's happening here, can
14 you just orient the jury as to where this recording took place?

15 A. When the recording first started, I was walking on 43rd
16 Street on the south side of the street. I was walking
17 eastbound towards 8th Avenue, and we stopped just prior to the
18 previous buy that was shown on video. There is construction in
19 the little parking lot there.

20 Q. Who did you approach on this occasion?

21 A. At this point, I stopped when I saw JD Duke, and I had a
22 conversation with JD Duke.

23 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could play beginning at second 15.

24 (Video played)

25 Q. Pause it.

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1 Detective Murphy, can you explain what we just watched
2 happen?

3 A. I greeted JD Duke. At that point, the other person that I
4 was with, which you briefly see, is JD Harlem. We start
5 walking westbound on the south side of 43rd Street, and he was
6 asking me how much I had.

7 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could take the video back to second 15,
8 and if you could play that excerpt from second 15 to second 26.

9 (Video played)

10 Q. In response to the question how much you had, what did you
11 respond?

12 A. I had 40, meaning \$40.

13 Q. Did you successfully purchase narcotics on this date?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Who actually sold you the narcotics?

16 A. JD Harlem.

17 Q. Next to you, you should see a government exhibit marked
18 Government Exhibit 104A. Do you see that there?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And what is Government Exhibit 104A?

21 A. It is a photograph of JD Harlem off of one of my videos,
22 one of my later videos.

23 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, the government offers
24 Exhibit 104A into evidence.

25 MR. McGUINNESS: No objection.

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1 THE COURT: Received.

2 (Government's Exhibit 104A received in evidence)

3 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could grab the exhibit from the witness
4 and place Government Exhibit 104A below the JD name Harlem.

5 THE COURT: Perhaps move the map to the left, if you
6 can, so that the board on the right is more visible.

7 Thank you.

8 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could please play this clip again
9 beginning at second 26 right where we are.

10 (Video played)

11 Q. Did you successfully purchase narcotics on that day?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could pull up Government Exhibit 3004,
14 please.

15 How much did you buy on January 15 of 2020?

16 A. I bought two twists of crack cocaine for \$40 of U.S.
17 currency.

18 Q. I want to move now to what's marked as USA transaction
19 number 9. On that date, who did you purchase narcotics from?

20 A. I purchased narcotics from JD Duke and JD Harlem.

21 Q. Is that the same set of individuals purchased from on
22 January 15?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's in evidence as
25 Government Exhibit 409A.

MAIQmia5

1 (Video played)

2 Q. I'm going to ask you to play the first two or three seconds
3 for all of us.

4 Detective Murphy, where is this video recorded?

5 A. This video appears to be recorded at the same location,
6 it's on 43rd Street, west of 8th Avenue on the south side of
7 the street.

8 Q. Mr. Foley, continue playing, please.

9 (Video played)

10 Q. Who did you approach?

11 A. I approached a group of individuals and spoke with JD Duke.

12 Q. What happened after you approached JD Duke?

13 A. He said, "Go ahead," and I walked west with JD Harlem.

14 Q. With whom?

15 A. JD Harlem.

16 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could play the remainder of the clip.

17 (Video played)

18 Q. At this point, what did you observe -- what had you
19 observed about the relationship between JD Duke and JD Harlem?

20 A. JD Duke was clearly giving directions to JD Harlem.

21 Q. Were there other occasions when you approached JD Duke in
22 the area of 43rd?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could please publish what's in evidence
25 as Government Exhibit 412A. I'm just going to ask you to play

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1 one second and pause it.

2 (Video played)

3 Q. Detective, do you recognize this area?

4 A. I do.

5 Q. Where is this recorded?

6 A. This is the north side of 43rd Street, west of 8th Avenue,
7 just opposite where the other previous buys were shown on
8 video.

9 Q. Can you read the timestamp on the bottom of this particular
10 clip?

11 A. It says 17:03. It's March 11, 2020.

12 Q. Do you recall what transpired on March 11, 2020?

13 A. I do.

14 Q. Can you please describe for the jury what happened?

15 A. On this video, at this time I met Mr. Mial. He was
16 standing next to JD Duke. Because this was the first time I
17 recalled seeing Mr. Mial, I approached him directly and not JD
18 Duke so that I could see what reactions were taking place.

19 Q. I'm going to stop you there for a second.

20 Mr. Foley if, you could play the next two or three
21 seconds of the clip.

22 (Video played)

23 Q. As you approach, what did you observe?

24 A. I observe the hand-to-hand transaction. The individual
25 that is walking towards me with the pom-pom hat on appeared to

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1 have purchased narcotics.

2 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could play the video next two seconds or
3 so.

4 As you came around the corner, what did you observe?

5 A. As I walked around the fencing, I observed JD Duke and
6 standing to, my orientation, to the left of JD Duke was a
7 person who I later learned to be Mr. Mial.

8 Q. Next to you is an object that's marked as Government
9 Exhibit 101A. Do you see that there?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. What is Government Exhibit 101A?

12 A. It is a picture of Mr. Mial taken off of my video.

13 Q. Is it a fair and accurate depiction of your surveillance
14 video?

15 A. Yes.

16 MS. NICOLAS: At this time, your Honor, the government
17 offers Government Exhibit 101A.

18 THE COURT: Any objection?

19 MR. McGUINNESS: No objection.

20 THE COURT: Received.

21 (Government's Exhibit 101A received in evidence)

22 BY MS. NICOLAS:

23 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could grab that and place it under the JD
24 name for the defendant.

25 Again, you just identified the person on the left.

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1 Who is the person on the right as you approached?

2 A. That's JD Duke.

3 Q. Now, before we play, do you recall what happened as you
4 approached these two individuals?

5 A. Yes. As I approached these two individuals, I approached
6 Mr. Mial, JD Eyes, JD Smooth, and I asked him for a quantity of
7 narcotics. I believe it was \$60, to the best of my memory. At
8 this point in time, you can see Mr. Mial look towards JD Duke.
9 JD Duke gives him the okay to sell to me, and then Mr. Mial
10 sells me crack cocaine.

11 Q. Had you purchased crack cocaine from JD Duke prior to this
12 occasion?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Why did you choose not to approach JD Duke directly?

15 A. Because I wanted to see who -- who the person was who was
16 standing next to him. At this point in time, I do not recall
17 ever seeing Mr. Mial, so I wanted to see who he was.

18 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could play the video beginning right here
19 which, is at second 8. Mr. Foley, if you could please publish
20 Government Exhibit 3004. If you could highlight transaction 9.
21 Excuse me, you were correct, transaction 12. Thank you.

22 How much did you purchase on that date?

23 A. On that day, I purchased three twists of crack cocaine for
24 \$60 of U.S. currency.

25 Q. I'm going to ask you to reach behind you and find what's

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1 been entered into evidence as Government Exhibit 212. Do you
2 recognize that?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What is it?

5 A. These are the narcotics I purchased on March 11, 2020.

6 Q. Do you see the pair of scissors that's sitting next to you
7 there, Detective Murphy?

8 A. Yes, I do.

9 Q. I'm going to ask you to cut that evidence bag open.

10 There's also a pair of gloves if you want to put those on. Let
11 the record reflect that the witness is putting on gloves. Let
12 the record reflect the witness is cutting open the evidence
13 bag.

14 Inside of that bag, do you see the UC envelope that
15 you used that day?

16 A. I do.

17 Q. Can you pull that out?

18 A. (Complies)

19 Q. If it's affixed, you can just hold it up for the jury?

20 A. The UC envelope is marked number 3 in the bag, it's this
21 right here on the top corner.

22 Q. Are those the narcotics that you purchased on that day also
23 affixed to that envelope?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Can you explain to the jury where they are and what they

MAIQmia5

1 look like?

2 A. In number one, just below that security envelope, this is
3 narcotics that was tested by the laboratory, so it's unpackaged
4 and you can't really see it too well.

5 The one below that, you could see a twist of crack
6 cocaine which has been unprocessed by the lab, so it's still
7 packaged in a little plastic twist.

8 Q. Thank you. You can place that to the side.

9 Did your investigation continue into May of 2020?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. I'm going to direct your attention to buy transaction
12 number 17 on Government Exhibit 3004. What date did that
13 transaction occur on?

14 A. May 27, 2020.

15 Q. Where was that transaction?

16 A. That location was at 255 West 43rd Street.

17 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's in evidence as
18 Government Exhibit 417A. I'll ask you to play this clip and
19 pause it at second 6, please.

20 (Video played)

21 Q. Can you just describe to the jury where you are at the
22 beginning of this clip, Detective Murphy?

23 A. At the beginning of this clip, again I'm walking eastbound
24 on 43rd Street towards 8th Avenue. Where the clip is stopped,
25 I'm on the southwest corner of 43rd Street and 8th Avenue.

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1 That's the corner where the Chick-fil-A is.

2 Q. Do you recognize anyone in the frame at six seconds in this
3 clip?

4 A. Yes, the only individual depicted here is JD Duke.

5 Q. Mr. Foley, I'm going to ask you to play again and please
6 pause at second 14.

7 (Video played)

8 Q. What just occurred in that portion of the clip?

9 A. I approached JD Duke, as I have on prior occasions. JD
10 Duke gave me directions on where to go. He said go up the
11 block and look towards the east side of the street. So I
12 followed his directions.

13 Q. What did you understand him to be instructing you to do?

14 A. He was instructing me on where to purchase crack cocaine.
15 Because in the video you heard, I told him I was looking for a
16 hundred, meaning I wanted a hundred dollars worth of crack
17 cocaine.

18 Q. Did you in fact go up the block?

19 A. I did.

20 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could please play this clip beginning at
21 second 14 and pausing at second 29.

22 (Video played)

23 Q. What street are you crossing here, Detective Murphy?

24 A. I just crossed over 8th Avenue to the east side of the
25 street. I'm now currently in the street of 43rd going from the

MAIQmia5

1 south side towards the north side.

2 Q. As you crossed the street, did you recognize anyone in the
3 intersection?

4 A. I did.

5 Q. Who was that?

6 A. The person you could see on the video standing there with
7 the blue and white and red is JD Ghost.

8 Q. Is that the same JD Ghost that we have been discussing up
9 until this point?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. What is his real name?

12 A. Johnny Perez.

13 Q. What did you do next before we continue playing this clip?

14 A. I approached JD Ghost and had a short conversation where I
15 told him I was looking for a hundred dollars worth, and I
16 purchased crack cocaine.

17 Q. Mr. Foley, you can go ahead and continue playing.

18 (Video played)

19 Q. Did you recognize the individual that walked up to JD Ghost
20 as you were walking down the street with him?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Continue playing, Mr. Foley.

23 (Video played)

24 Q. Detective Murphy, what happened during the portion of that
25 clip?

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1 A. During that portion of the clip, myself and JD Ghost walked
2 eastbound in front of the Times Square Hotel. I told him how
3 much I was looking for, and another individual started speaking
4 with him. They spoke about money that she owed to him, at
5 which time she also said that she was going to send someone to
6 him. He said that was fine and it was okay to pay him later.

7 Q. Did you purchase narcotics from JD Ghost on that day?

8 A. I did. I purchased loose crack cocaine from JD Ghost.

9 Q. How much money did you spend on that transaction?

10 A. A hundred dollars of U.S. currency.

11 Q. Did your investigation continue into July of 2020?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Mr. Foley, please pull up Government Exhibit 3004, and
14 let's focus on transaction 20.

15 Detective Murphy, when did transaction 20 occur?

16 A. Transaction 20 occurred on July 14, 2020.

17 Q. Where did that transaction occur?

18 A. In front of 249 West 43rd Street.

19 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please pull up Government Exhibit 3006
20 this.

21 Approximately where is 249 West 43rd Street on this
22 map in Government Exhibit 3006?

23 A. It's hard to see. It's on 43rd Street right in the big
24 blob of transactions.

25 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please publish what's in evidence as

MAIQmia5

1 Government Exhibit 420A, and just play one or two seconds.

2 (Video played)

3 Q. If you could just take it back to second two on the video,
4 please.

5 Before we begin talking about what happened on this
6 day, can you just describe for the jury what direction you're
7 facing here?

8 A. Again, I'm walking eastbound on 43rd Street. It stopped
9 right here where I'm at the corner of 43rd Street and 8th
10 Avenue on the southwest corner.

11 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please play until second 5.

12 (Video played)

13 Q. As you approached the intersection, did you recognize any
14 one?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Who did you recognize?

17 A. I recognized JD Duke sitting down. You could see him there
18 sitting down next to the individual with the colorful hat.
19 He's the guy with the bald head.

20 Q. What's he wearing in this clip?

21 A. He's got the gray shirt on.

22 Q. Did you approach him on this day?

23 A. I did.

24 Q. What happened when you approached him?

25 A. Once I approached him, I was attempting to purchase

MAIQmia5

narcotics. I was then given directions by JD Duke.

(Continued on next page)

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 BY MS. NICOLAS:

2 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please continue playing.

3 (Video played)

4 Q. What just happened when you interacted with JD Duke?

5 A. When I interacted with JD Duke, he said, What's up with
6 you, you're scaring mother fuckers. I took that that to mean
7 he was scared of me because I approached him from behind and he
8 thought I might be a cop. I said a couple of names. JD Duke
9 said, yeah, he remembers me, and he told me to go up the block
10 to where I'm to purchase narcotics.

11 Q. Now, as you continued up the block, who if anyone were you
12 looking for?

13 A. I was looking for any individuals that I have previously
14 seen regarding this case.

15 Q. Mr. Foley, could you continue playing.

16 (Video played)

17 Q. Pause here for a moment.

18 Are you walking alone at this point?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Who were you walking with?

21 A. I'm walking with the individual with the colorful hat that
22 you've seen previous to this. He's walking next to me.

23 Q. Is that person known to you?

24 A. I don't know his name. I've never hung out with him, but I
25 know him from the street. You know, we see each other in

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 passing.

2 Q. As you continued on the street, do you recall if you saw
3 anyone you recognized?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Who did you see?

6 A. I don't remember off the top of my head right now. I'd
7 have to refer to my notes or watch the video.

8 Q. Continue the video, Mr. Foley, beginning at 48 seconds.

9 (Video played)

10 Q. I'm going to ask you to pause it at a minute and 14
11 seconds.

12 (Video played)

13 Q. If you could just go back about one second.

14 (Video played)

15 Q. Just a little bit more, Mr. Foley. Just play and pause
16 real quick.

17 (Video played)

18 Q. That's perfect.

19 As you continued down the street, Detective Murphy,
20 did you see anyone you recognized?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Who did you see?

23 A. If you look across the street in front of the Times Square
24 Hotel, in black, that's JD Tre. You can briefly hear me say
25 "Where they at?"

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 At that point, you can see he's pointing more
2 eastbound. You can see JD Tre pointing right now.

3 Q. Can you describe exactly where on the video JD Tre is
4 standing?

5 A. He's the one to the right of the door frame. The
6 individual who stands out in white, to the right of the guy in
7 white is JD Tre with his arm extended and he's pointing up the
8 block.

9 Q. Do you recognize JD Tre?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Based on him pointing up the block, what did you understand
12 from that interaction?

13 A. I continued up the block.

14 Q. What did you understand him to be communicating to you?

15 A. To walk up the block. Because he was looking at me and
16 pointing up the block.

17 Q. And did you, in fact, continue walking up the block?

18 A. I did.

19 Q. Mr. Foley, can you continue playing the clip beginning here
20 at 1 minute and 13 seconds.

21 (Video played)

22 Q. Pause right there. Play one more second, Mr. Foley.

23 (Video played)

24 Q. Pausing the video at one minute and 44 seconds.

25 As you passed through that scaffolding, do you

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 recognize anyone?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Who did you recognize?

4 A. I recognize the JD Eyes, also known as JD Smooth, Mr. Mial.

5 Q. As you approached him, what did you observe?

6 A. I observed him interacting with another individual.

7 Q. Mr. Foley, I'm going to ask you to back this clip up about
8 five seconds and play that again.

9 (Video played)

10 Q. Continuing playing.

11 (Video played)

12 Q. You can pause it right there.

13 Now, as you approach the defendant, did he sell drugs
14 to you immediately?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Why not?

17 A. He questioned me. He said, "Who are you?" I told him my
18 name, Rob. It's the name I use throughout this case. I then
19 name dropped the two individuals that had just sent me to
20 Mr. Mial, Tre and Duke.

21 Q. Why did you reference Tre and Duke?

22 A. Because the organization, they all know each other's street
23 names and they all work together on occasion.

24 MR. MCGUINNESS: Objection.

25 THE COURT: Sustained. Witness should answer with

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 regard to what his understandings were, rather than as a matter
2 of what the facts were.

3 You may rephrase.

4 Q. Why was it that you decided to name Duke and Tre when
5 interacting with Smooth?

6 A. On prior purchases, I had used names of individuals
7 involved in this case and individuals that I've seen hanging
8 out together. So on this occasion, I used the names of people
9 that I had just seen that I had been involved with in purchases
10 before.

11 Q. Continue playing the clip, Mr. Foley.

12 (Video played)

13 Q. Detective Murphy, I'm going to ask you to reach behind you
14 and pull out what's in evidence as Government Exhibit 220.

15 And, Mr. Foley, if you could please publish what's in
16 evidence as Government Exhibit 220P.

17 If you could go to the second page of Government
18 Exhibit 220P. Great. Thank you.

19 If you could zoom in on the middle of the page.
20 Little bit further. Up a little bit. That's great. Thank
21 you.

22 I'm going to again ask you to open up this bag,
23 Detective Murphy. So if you can grab those scissors and
24 gloves, and cut that open for us, I have just a few questions
25 about that bag.

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 Beginning with the exhibit itself, can you describe
2 what that is?

3 A. The exhibit itself is the narcotics I purchased on that
4 day.

5 Q. And just to be clear, that day was July 14 of 2020?

6 A. Yes. The video we just watched.

7 Q. How were the narcotics that you purchased that day
8 packaged?

9 A. They were packaged in capsules.

10 Q. Can you describe what a capsule is?

11 A. A capsule is a small, plastic container, it's about the
12 size of a pinky fingernail. It has a top on it. If you flip
13 the top up, it stays attached to the vessel. The capsules come
14 in multiple different colors—most of them are opaque—and the
15 crack is sealed inside of the little container.

16 Q. Detective Murphy, could you please cut open what's marked
17 as Item No. 2 on that?

18 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, with the Court's permission
19 can Detective Murphy show the jury what these capsules look
20 like?

21 THE COURT: Yes, he may.

22 Q. Detective Murphy, if you could pour those capsules into
23 your hand and walk over to show the jury so they could see what
24 they look like.

25 And as you do so, Detective Murphy, if you could just

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 explain how the narcotics are packaged within those capsules.

2 A. I'll do it twice so you guys over there can see and hear
3 better.

4 But if you look in my hand here, you can see the
5 different colored capsules. And you take one individual
6 capsule—this is the top; it can flip up—and the crack is kept
7 inside there.

8 You heard? So everyone can see the different colors.
9 And then these little tops will flip up. The crack is kept
10 inside of these little containers.

11 Q. If you could place those capsules back in the bag and set
12 that aside once you return to the stand.

13 Thank you, Detective Murphy.

14 Staying on the capsules for a moment, based on your
15 experience in Times Square, were these types of capsules common
16 in Times Square before December of 2019?

17 A. No.

18 Q. When did you first begin seeing them?

19 A. I have seen them in the past on rare, rare occasions prior
20 to December of '19. More into the year 2020 they became more
21 prevalent, mostly while buying from individuals involved in
22 this case.

23 Q. I want to go back to your purchase of narcotics from the
24 defendant on July 14 of 2020.

25 Can you describe the nature of the interactions you

MAI7MIA7

1 saw between Duke and Tre and Smooth on that day?

2 A. I approached JD Duke and he told me to go up the block. As
3 I walked up the block, when I was in the area opposite to the
4 Times Square Hotel, JD Tre continued to direct me further up
5 the block. I then continued up the block and under the
6 scaffolding. Just past that, I observed Mr. Mial. So I then
7 approached him and he sold me the crack cocaine.

8 Q. Did there come a time when the defendant provided you with
9 a phone number?

10 A. Yes.

11 THE COURT: One moment. Ms. Nicolas, if we're moving
12 off of July 14, 2020, would this be a good time for a
13 mid-afternoon break?

14 MS. NICOLAS: Yes.

15 THE COURT: I'm informed that the afternoon snack has
16 arrived.

17 MS. NICOLAS: Yes, this is a good time.

18 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen, we're
19 going to take a 15-minute recess. As always, please don't
20 discuss the case.

21 THE DEPUTY CLERK: All rise.

22 (Continued on next page)

MAI7MIA7

(Jury not present; witness not present)

THE COURT: Counsel, for as long as this witness is testifying, so that I don't have to keep reminding the government or giving hand signals to go to the door each time we take a break, whether at the end of the day, a comfort break, I expect somebody from the government to immediately move forthwith to the door to remove the sign and remove the guard from the door.

MS. NICOLAS: Understood.

THE COURT: Counsel, I've given a little more thought to the issue of the cross-examination of this witness, and here's where I am. And so I just want to say the following to clarify and explain my judgment on this:

Regardless of the fact that it came out on direct, at the end of the day, the design of other buy programs not involving this defendant or the alleged coconspirators is, frankly, irrelevant to anything that the jury has to decide here. Even more irrelevant, of course, would be whether any of those programs were designed with an eye towards getting to a number that had charging or punishment relevance. Indeed, punishment is explicitly no concern of the jury's.

The one issue within this area that is germane is the design of the buy program here. And the reason is that, at the end of the day, the jury needs to make a calculation about the amount of crack that is foreseeable and it, therefore, becomes

MAI7MIA7

1 reasonable for defense counsel to probe from whom purchases
2 were being made, when purchases were not being made, when the
3 end date was, because counsel is entitled to use those data
4 points in arguing what amounts were or were not foreseeable.

5 What follows from that is three things:

6 On cross-examination, there is not to be any
7 questioning about the design of any other buy programs.
8 Notwithstanding the fact that it came out on direct and was not
9 objected to, it's just not relevant to any issue the jury needs
10 to find.

11 Number two, there is to be nothing about charges or
12 sentencing or punishment. That is, I think by agreement, out
13 of bounds.

14 However, number three, defense counsel is entitled to
15 inquire about the operational design of this program, when
16 purchases were to be made, when they weren't going to be made,
17 by whom they were to be made, in what quantities they were to
18 be made, and when the buying was to start and stop.

19 It seems to me that is fair game from the evidence
20 that comes from that. Counsel will be able to make responsible
21 arguments as to the foreseeable quantity. I don't know whether
22 or not the answers to those questions will move the needle
23 much. Nonetheless, they are grist for proper arguments and
24 counsel can't be reasonably constrained as to that. But as to
25 what's happened in other cases, it seems to me irrelevant,

MAI7MIA7

1 meaning in any other buy programs.

2 MR. MCGUINNESS: Your Honor, my understanding of the
3 relevance that was discussed before lunch was that without
4 being able to bring that up as it was volunteered, I'm left
5 with what the officer explains and I'm not able to question the
6 credibility, which is proper cross-examination. And it tests
7 the credibility if we go to his own words referencing what was
8 done in other programs.

9 THE COURT: Well, you can test whether or not they
10 were managing to a number here. And maybe there's something
11 about the numbers that were purchased that you can use to argue
12 that. But at the end of the day, whatever happened in other
13 programs is really just -- it's just not germane.

14 MR. MCGUINNESS: It tends to make it less likely that
15 it is truthful that they weren't going to a number if they
16 often do in other programs, as they often do.

17 THE COURT: Government, what's your view?

18 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, I'm not sure what the
19 relevance is of whether or not they were going to a particular
20 number. I think the matter at hand is the amount that is
21 foreseeable to the defendant. Regardless of what law
22 enforcement was trying to do or observe, the reality is there's
23 a much higher number extrapolated from other evidence that will
24 come in over the course of this trial. I think this is
25 certainly one piece, but I just don't see how it's particularly

MAI7MIA7

1 relevant here.

2 THE COURT: Look, it seems to me that if they were
3 managing here to a number, that is relevant. If, for example,
4 the program here were designed to cherry pick, to choose dates
5 and times where officers reasonably thought they would get a
6 disproportionate quantity or something like that. The argument
7 could be made in response to whatever arguments you will be
8 making about the extrapolation from the buys were made.

9 So it seems to me that the intentionality in terms of
10 what they're buying and when they were stopping is fair game.
11 In that respect, I don't agree with the government. It seems
12 to me that if you assume a program design that was intended to
13 essentially create a greater illusion of foreseeable quantity,
14 that's, I think, fair game for counsel to inquire into.

15 What, however, happened in other cases is not fair
16 game. You've elicited—probably should have been objected
17 to—that in other cases for charging relevance, different
18 decisions have been made. Had there been an objection to that,
19 I would have sustained it. But it seems to me that the fact
20 that that has happened in other cases simply doesn't bear on
21 the design of this program and it creates a number of 403
22 issues.

23 Number one, it brings us back to charges and
24 punishment, which regrettably was blurted out by the witness.
25 I don't want to go anywhere near there. Punishment is not a

MAI7MIA7

1 concern of the jury, and to get back into that as to other
2 cases gets right into that problem.

3 Number two is it creates a distracting issue as to
4 what happened in other cases and tends to put law enforcement
5 on trial as it relates to law enforcement's operation of other
6 cases. It simply has nothing to do with any issue before the
7 jury here.

8 As I am focused on this, the relevant issue for the
9 jury is what's foreseeable to the defendant. And in that
10 respect, the full-throated examination of the decisions that
11 were made here as to when to buy and when not to buy and from
12 whom to buy and in what quantities and and over what time
13 period is fair game.

14 That's my ruling.

15 MS. NICOLAS: Understood, your Honor.

16 MR. MCGUINNESS: If I may just say one final thing,
17 your Honor. I mean, the comments that began this all were that
18 we could drive up the weight. The witness testimony was the
19 weight would be driven up to lead to more serious charges, and
20 that's a good thing. That was the testimony.

21 There seems to be a motivation to maximize the weight
22 to cherry pick. And that's exactly what I am trying to drive
23 at, your Honor. I do think it is fair game. And I do think it
24 makes it more likely, those comments, that they are driving
25 towards increasing weight and cherrypicking when to buy, when

MAI7MIA7

1 to examine the purchases.

2 THE COURT: And you're at liberty to develop facts
3 that suggest that the purchases that were made were not made,
4 and I don't know if you're going to contest that any of these
5 purchases never occurred. But at the end of the day, if you're
6 not seriously disputing that the 67 purchases occurred in or
7 about the amounts indicated, where you're left then is to argue
8 why the quantities that were then bought shouldn't be
9 extrapolated to get over the relevant parameters that are set
10 in the verdict form. But the subjective motivations,
11 particularly in other cases, are just not germane; they're just
12 not.

13 All right. Counsel, we'll take a ten-minute recess
14 and I'll see you then.

15 (Recess)

16 (In open court; jury not present)

17 THE COURT: In a moment, Mr. Smallman will get the
18 jury I just want to add one coda to what I said earlier.

19 If I had not been for the fact that a sentence or two
20 came out as a matter of background during the witness's direct
21 about what the motivations have been in some other cases with
22 respect to trying to achieve a certain number in terms of drug
23 quantity, there's literally zero chance that it would even be a
24 discussion point here for the cross-examination as to
25 motivations in other cases, or the purposes of other cases, or

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1 the plans in other cases could come into play would be
2 blatantly and clearly improper.

3 The issue here then is whether the fact that that
4 regrettably came out really changes the evidentiary analysis.
5 At the end of the day, it's unfortunate that it came out, but
6 it's also completely unprejudicial. It's anything marginally
7 helpful that's out there on the record for the defense, but it
8 doesn't in any way change what the jury's limited
9 responsibilities will be, either as to liability or as to the
10 foreseeable drug quantity. The fact that the witness
11 apparently slipped up and let a verbal sentence out about what
12 has happened in other cases simply doesn't make relevant what
13 happened in other cases. And it certainly doesn't change the
14 403 analysis under which a discussion of all that raises
15 exactly the worries one has about punishment being front and
16 center before the jury, or about a trial within a trial, or a
17 distraction, but focused on the experience of other cases.

18 All right. Let's get the jury. Let's bring the
19 witness out.

20 Ms. Nicolas, is it still your projection that you will
21 be complete with direct by the witching hour?

22 MS. NICOLAS: It is my sincere hope, your Honor. I
23 think it will be quite close.

24 (Witness present)

25 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. McGuinness, if we're getting

MAI7MIA7

1 close to 5 o'clock, I would be happy to give you the latitude
2 to start up on the cross first thing Wednesday. Should I
3 assume that is your druthers, or do you want to be heard on
4 that?

5 MR. MCGUINNESS: No. That is my --

6 THE COURT: That would be your druthers.

7 So if we end with not too much time on the clock, I
8 should take it as your druthers that we stop a bit early and
9 let you start fresh tomorrow?

10 MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor. I'd say if we stop
11 any time before quarter of, I would like to use that time. But
12 if we're within 15 minutes --

13 THE COURT: That is exactly the line I would have
14 drawn.

15 Perfect.

16 (Continued on next page)

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 (Jury present)

2 THE COURT: Be seated.

3 Welcome back, ladies and gentlemen.

4 Detective Murphy, I'll remind you that you're still
5 under oath.

6 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Counsel, you may inquire.

8 MS. NICOLAS: Thank you, your Honor.

9 BY MS. NICOLAS:

10 Q. Detective Murphy, welcome back.

11 When we had broke, we had just begun talking about the
12 defendant's cell phone.

13 Did there come a time when the defendant gave you his
14 phone number?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. When did that occur?

17 A. I don't recall the exact date, but I have it in my reports.

18 Q. Would it refresh your recollection to look at the reports?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could just publish for the witness, the
21 Court, and the parties 350125. You can scroll down to the
22 middle and zoom in for the witness, please.

23 MS. NICOLAS: Excuse me, your Honor, may I have one
24 moment?

25 THE COURT: Yes, you may.

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 MS. NICOLAS: May I approach the witness?

2 THE COURT: Yes, you may.

3 MS. NICOLAS: Mr. Foley, you can close down.

4 BY MS. NICOLAS:

5 Q. Detective Murphy, do you now recall the date in which the
6 defendant provided you with his phone number?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. When was that?

9 A. On August 7, 2020.

10 Q. Once he provided you with that phone number, what did you
11 do with it?

12 A. I saved it into my undercover phone that I used for only
13 undercover operations. I saved it under the name "Smooth," the
14 name that was given to me by the defendant, Mr. Mial.

15 Q. Did he ever provide you with an additional phone number?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Now, in the time after he provided you with those phone
18 numbers, did you ever call him?

19 A. Yes, I did.

20 Q. Did you sometimes text with him?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And did you preserve the records of those calls and text
23 conversations?

24 A. Yes, I did.

25 Q. Next to you in that binder that's marked "Government

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 Exhibits" there should be a series of tabs beginning with an 8.
2 Those are what's marked for identification.

3 And, Mr. Foley, as I talk through them, if you could
4 publish only for the parties, the Court, and the witness
5 Government Exhibits 801A, 801B, 802A, 802B, 827A, 828A, 838A,
6 841B, 842A, 845A, 847A, 853A, and finally, 856A.

7 Have you seen those before?

8 A. Yes, I have.

9 Q. What are they in general terms?

10 A. This is screenshots of my phone, my undercover phone. It
11 represents the phone numbers given to me by Mr. Mial and my
12 call logs.

13 Q. Did you personally take these screenshots?

14 A. I did.

15 Q. Did you provide those screenshots to the U.S. Attorney's
16 Office?

17 A. Yes, I did.

18 Q. Are they fair and accurate depictions of the content of the
19 conversations as well as your call logs and contact information
20 saved on your undercover cell phone in the course of this
21 investigation?

22 A. Yes.

23 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, at this time, the government
24 offers the 800 series, which I can read by exhibit numbers into
25 the record.

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 THE COURT: There are about a dozen of them?

2 MS. NICOLAS: 13, yes, your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Why don't you read them into the record.

4 MS. NICOLAS: Yes, your Honor.

5 Those are Government Exhibits 801A, 801B, 802A, 802B,
6 827A, 828A, 838A, 841B, 842A, 845A, 847A, 853A, and 856A.

7 THE COURT: All right. Is there any objection?

8 MR. MCGUINNESS: Your Honor, I'm just waiting as the
9 government can finish his scrolling through.

10 THE COURT: Okay.

11 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

12 THE COURT: All right. They're all received.

13 MS. NICOLAS: Thank you, your Honor.

14 (Government Exhibits 801A, 801B, 802A, 802B, 827A,
15 828A, 838A, 841B, 842A, 845A, 847A, 853A, and 856A received
16 into evidence)

17 MS. NICOLAS: Mr. Foley, if you could please publish
18 801A.

19 BY MS. NICOLAS:

20 Q. Detective Murphy, can you just explain what Government
21 Exhibit 801A is?

22 A. 801A is the screenshot of my contact for JD Smooth. And
23 right under "Smooth" you can see the phone number that he had
24 given to me that I stored into my cell phone.

25 Q. Can you read that phone number into the record, please?

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 A. Yes. It is, 347-896-9664.

2 Q. Now, on the day that he provided you with that phone
3 number, did he also sell you narcotics?

4 A. Yes, he did.

5 Q. Do you recall what happened on that day?

6 A. On that day in which he gave me the phone number, we were
7 briefly -- a police officer briefly attempted to stop myself
8 and Mr. Mial.

9 Q. So can you describe when you first interacted with Mr. Mial
10 on that date, August 7 of 2020?

11 A. On that day, I met Mr. Mial on 8th Avenue north of 42nd
12 Street on the west side of the street between 42 and 43. As we
13 were interacting and Mr. Mial was selling me narcotics, crack
14 cocaine, he had only given me part of the product when we
15 noticed a police officer approaching us. It was -- appeared to
16 me to be a sergeant, a uniformed police officer. As this
17 police officer approached, he briefly called out. I couldn't
18 hear exactly what he was saying, but Mr. Mial briskly started
19 crossing 8th Avenue over to the east side of the street going
20 southbound. I followed Mr. Mial.

21 Once across the street, we continued the sale. While
22 crossing the street—I was in the middle of the street—I could
23 hear the uniformed officer getting closer and closer to me. At
24 this time, I did have my police identification in my
25 pocket—just an ID card, not a shield—which I sometimes do,

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 but very rarely when I'm outdoors. I pulled out my police
2 identification, I cupped it in my hands so no one could see it
3 unless you were next to me, I held it behind my person so the
4 sergeant could see that I was a police officer. The sergeant
5 immediately stopped following. I then put my ID in my pocket
6 while Mr. Mial was still crossing the street, leaving the
7 location.

8 I followed Mr. Mial to 41st Street where we continued
9 the transaction and finished the drug sale.

10 Q. Did you ultimately purchase narcotics from Mr. Mial on that
11 day?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please pull up Government Exhibit
14 3004, focusing on buy 25.

15 Does the row that's marked "25" reflect the purchase
16 you just described?

17 A. Yes. The purchase happened on 41st Street on August 7,
18 2020. I purchased \$100 worth of crack in ten capsules from
19 Mr. Mial.

20 Q. When you say "capsules," are you referring to the same type
21 of capsules that you showed the jury before the break?

22 A. Yes. They may have been different colors than the ones I
23 showed to the jury, but they are, in substance, the same type
24 of container.

25 Q. Now, after you got his phone number, did you begin to

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 communicate with Mr. Mial by text message?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Why did you do that?

4 A. I wanted to communicate with Mr. Mial via text message to
5 further the investigation to see if we could find out more
6 about the organization.

7 Q. From a law enforcement perspective, why is that important?

8 A. At one point during my purchases, Mr. Mial told me that he
9 has a car and he can now start delivering to me. So we wanted
10 to get the actual plate number of the vehicle that he told me
11 he had.

12 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please publish what's now in evidence as
13 Government Exhibit 827A. I'm going to ask you to scroll to the
14 bottom of that exhibit -- bottom of the first page.

15 Before we start talking about the substance of this
16 text message, just to orient the jury as we're looking at this,
17 whose phone was this a screenshot from?

18 A. This was a screenshot from my undercover phone.

19 Q. Okay. And so the text messages that are in green, who is
20 that?

21 A. That would be me.

22 Q. And the text messages in gray, who is that?

23 A. That is a text message received from Mr. Mial.

24 Q. Now, the date here that you can see above the text that's
25 sent at 4:47 p.m., what's the date of the beginning of this

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 conversation?

2 A. August 18, 2020.

3 Q. And what's the first thing you said on August 18, 2020?

4 A. "I be around in 40."

5 Q. And what were you communicating when you said, "I be around
6 in 40"?

7 A. I'll be around the area in 40 minutes.

8 Q. And how did Mr. Mial respond?

9 A. He said, "Okay."

10 Q. If you could keep scrolling down Mr. Foley. My apologies.
11 Of 828A, please.

12 Is this a continuation of the same conversations,
13 Detective Murphy?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. What's the next thing you said at 5:54 p.m.

16 A. I said, "What I'm over here."

17 Q. What were you communicating when you said, "I'm over here"?

18 A. I was letting the defendant know that I'm in the area of
19 43rd Street and 8th Avenue.

20 Q. How did he respond?

21 A. He responded to me telling me to see his guy by the
22 scaffold again.

23 Q. And what did you understand it to mean when the defendant
24 is said, "See my guy by the scaffolding again"?

25 A. The scaffolding is the scaffolding that we've seen in prior

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 evidence as photos on 43rd Street. On the north side there is
2 scaffolding; and on the south side there was also scaffolding.

3 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please bring up Government Exhibit 428A.
4 428A, please. If you could just make that a full screen and
5 pause it.

6 On that particular day, did you, in fact, go to 43rd
7 and 8th?

8 A. I did.

9 Q. And did you find someone to buy crack cocaine from on that
10 day?

11 A. I did.

12 Q. Did you recognize that individual?

13 A. I would have to watch the video or go to my reports to be
14 100 percent sure.

15 Q. Before we start the video, what is the time stamp here at
16 the beginning of this video?

17 A. The time stamp is August 18, 2020, 17:57 hours. That's
18 military time for 5:57 p.m.

19 Q. Is that close in time to when you were exchanging text
20 messages with the defendant?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Mr. Foley, you can go ahead and play this part of the
23 video.

24 (Video played)

25 Q. We're pausing the video at second 35.

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 Who was it that you approached when you got to 43rd?

2 A. I approached JD Tre.

3 Q. Is that the same JD Tre that's on the board at the moment
4 in Government Exhibit 105C -- excuse me. 105A?

5 A. Yes, it's the JD Tre that is on the board.

6 Q. Okay. So at this point in the video, what's occurring?

7 A. I approached JD Tre. You heard me say, "Oh, I didn't
8 realize it was you." On my text messages with Mr. Mial, you
9 had seen I said, I don't recognize who you're sending me to.
10 Then I saw JD Tre. So I laughed. I said, "I didn't know it
11 was you." And then myself and JD Tre started to walk.

12 Q. So at this point, are you walking alone?

13 A. At this point, I'm not exactly sure how close JD Tre is to
14 me, but JD Tre told me to go up the block.

15 Q. Okay. Mr. Foley, can you continue playing, beginning at
16 second 35.

17 (Video played)

18 Q. We're pausing the video at second 46.

19 Did some time elapse before a narcotics transaction
20 was completed on this day?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Mr. Foley, please fast forward the video or move forward to
23 2 minutes and 12 seconds. You can go ahead and play it.

24 (Video played)

25 Q. Can you just describe what we saw in that portion of the

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 video?

2 A. In that portion of the video, once we got under the
3 scaffolding, JD Tre sold me crack cocaine; at which point, I
4 walked away. We had some quick banter, and I continued
5 westbound away from JD Tre.

6 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please publish Government Exhibit 3004
7 and move, again, to transaction 28.

8 Detective Murphy, do you recall how the narcotics were
9 packaged during transaction 28?

10 A. Yes. I received 10 capsules of crack cocaine.

11 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please publish what's in evidence as
12 Government Exhibit 228P. Go to the second page, please.

13 Detective Murphy, do you recognize what's on the
14 screen here?

15 A. Yes. These are the narcotics I had purchased.

16 Q. Okay. Can you describe --

17 Mr. Foley, if you could zoom in on the top half of the
18 page.

19 Could you describe how the narcotics were packaged in
20 this case?

21 A. You can clearly see here that there are capsules; they're
22 opaque in different colors; one was tested and other ones
23 weren't.

24 Q. Mr. Foley, you can pull these down. Thank you.

25 We can go back to Government Exhibit 3004.

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 Detective Murphy, I'm going to direct your attention
2 to September 4 of 2020. This is transactions 32 and 33.

3 Detective Murphy, how many times did you purchase
4 narcotics on September 4 of 2020?

5 A. Twice.

6 Q. And from whom did you purchase those narcotics?

7 A. I purchased narcotics from Mr. Mial and JD Tre on separate
8 occasions.

9 Q. So beginning with the first transaction, transaction 32,
10 can you walk us through the information in Government Exhibit
11 3004 as to transaction 32?

12 A. I purchased 15 capsules of crack cocaine from Mr. Mial.
13 And that was in front of 424 West 43rd Street.

14 Q. And how much money did you spend is on that particular
15 occasion?

16 A. \$140 of U.S. currency.

17 Q. Mr. Foley, can you publish Government Exhibit 432A in
18 evidence. I'm going to ask you to play the first about 15
19 seconds or so, Mr. Foley.

20 (Video played)

21 Q. Play about another two seconds, please.

22 (Video played)

23 Q. Pausing the video at second 21.

24 Detective Murphy, do you recognize the individual on
25 the screen?

MAI7MIA7

Murphy - Direct

1 A. Yes. That is Mr. Mial.

2 Q. And as he approached you that day, do you recall what his
3 method of transportation was?

4 A. A little electrical scooter.

5 Q. So as he rode up to on his scooter and began a
6 conversation, do you recall -- or can you interpret what you
7 heard him talking about here?

8 A. He came up to me and started to talk about the interaction
9 which we had previously had where the police officer was trying
10 to stop myself and Mr. Mial.

11 Q. And is that the same interaction that you described to the
12 jury just a moment ago?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. On this occasion, did you communicate to the defendant that
15 you wanted to buy narcotics?

16 A. I did.

17 Q. And what happened after you told him you were interested in
18 buying narcotics?

19 A. We came to an agreement to meet at this location. And once
20 we met at this location, Mr. Mial sold me crack cocaine.

21 MS. NICOLAS: Mr. Foley, can you continue playing the
22 clip.

23 (Video played)

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. At this point in your interaction with the defendant on
2 this day, has he sold you narcotics?

3 A. During this day? No.

4 Q. During this part of the conversation?

5 A. No.

6 Q. What did he direct you to do at the end of that
7 interaction?

8 A. He told me to walk up the block, which I did. He went in
9 front of me in his scooter -- on his scooter.

10 Q. Did you in fact follow him down the block?

11 A. I did.

12 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please publish what's in evidence as
13 Government Exhibit 432B.

14 Before we play this clip, can you orient the jury to
15 what is on the first frame at the beginning of Government
16 Exhibit 432B?

17 A. You see Mr. Mial with his scooter next to him. He's
18 looking down at his hands. It's hard to tell from the video,
19 but he's looking at crack cocaine.

20 Q. Mr. Foley, go ahead and hit play on this clip. I'm going
21 to ask you to pause at second 17.

22 (Video played)

23 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, at this time I'd ask that
24 the jury consult their transcript binders, flip to the tab in
25 432T.

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, your binders are
2 under your chairs. Please open them and turn to 432T.

3 Ms. Nicolas, 432T?

4 MS. NICOLAS: That is correct, your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Very good.

6 Q. Detective Murphy, are you also looking at the transcript
7 marked 432T?

8 A. I am.

9 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, as this is the first time
10 the jury has consulted their binders, if you would like to
11 address with them reading ahead.

12 THE COURT: Sure. Yes.

13 Ladies and gentlemen, please keep your attention only
14 on the particular tab that counsel has directed you to. There
15 may well be others that we get to, but it's important that
16 everyone stay focused on the particular piece of evidence
17 that's being addressed at the time. Thank you;

18 BY MS. NICOLAS:

19 Q. Before moving forward, Detective Murphy, beginning on
20 what's marked as page 2, the first full page of text of 432T,
21 does that page summarize as what you just be described as the
22 initial interaction with the defendant about the cops chasing
23 you on the prior interaction?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Moving to page 3, does this portion reflect the portion of

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 the video that we just watched?

2 A. Yes, it does.

3 Q. So looking at line 4, where it says, "These are some big
4 full caps. So it's 14 straight right there. You probably
5 could make about the amount out of that."

6 What did you understand that to mean?

7 A. That I could sell part of the drugs I purchased, and I
8 would make my money back.

9 Q. You then asked him for "one extra." What does that mean?

10 A. It's common when purchasing drugs, drug buyers always ask
11 for extra. It's, you know, like anyone in life, you want to
12 get a good deal, so I always try to ask for extra because
13 that's what users and buyers do.

14 Q. Did the defendant have the ability to give you extra?

15 A. Yes, he did.

16 Q. I'm going to ask everyone to set aside the transcript
17 binders for a moment.

18 Mr. Foley, if you could play the remainder of this
19 clip beginning at second 17.

20 (Video played)

21 Q. Did you successfully purchase narcotics on that day?

22 A. Yes, I did.

23 Q. How were the narcotics packaged on that day?

24 A. Capsules.

25 Q. Moving to later that same day, did you make a second

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 narcotics purchase?

2 A. I did.

3 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's in evidence as
4 Government Exhibit 433A.

5 (Video played)

6 Q. Could you just describe and orient for the jury quickly
7 where we are at the beginning of this video?

8 A. I am -- at the beginning of the video, I appear to be in
9 the middle of 8th Avenue looking at the northeast corner of 8th
10 Avenue and 43rd Street.

11 Q. Continue, Mr. Foley, beginning at second 4.

12 (Video played)

13 Q. As you cross the street on that particular day, do you see
14 anyone you recognized?

15 A. Yes, JD Tre.

16 Q. Continue beginning at second 13.

17 (Video played)

18 Q. Were you able to successfully purchase narcotics from
19 JD Tre on this day?

20 A. Yes, I was.

21 Q. Do you recall how those narcotics were packaged?

22 A. They were capsules.

23 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish side by side pages 2 of
24 Government Exhibit 232P and 233P.

25 While he's doing that, Detective Murphy, can you

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 describe as it relates to the way that the evidence is numbered
2 in this case what the significance of the numbers 32 and 33
3 have in Government Exhibits 232 and Government Exhibit 233?

4 A. They are the order in which I purchased the narcotics.

5 Q. Do those numbers correlate with the numbers on Government
6 Exhibit 304 for each transaction?

7 A. Yes, they do.

8 Q. Do they also correlate to the numbers on the tabs in
9 Government Exhibit 306?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Or 3006.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Please go to page 2 of both of these documents. And zoom
14 in on Government Exhibit 232P. If you could zoom in on the
15 bottom right as much as you're able.

16 Then on the left Government Exhibit 233P, if you could
17 zoom in on the top left corner of that.

18 The narcotics you purchased on the same day, on
19 September 4 of 2020, can you describe how they compare in terms
20 of their packaging?

21 A. They're both capsules, just different colors.

22 Q. On the left, Government Exhibit 232P, who did you purchase
23 those narcotics from?

24 A. That was from Mr. Mial.

25 Q. On the right, 233P?

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 A. That was from JD Tre.

2 Q. Thank you.

3 Mr. Foley, let's go back to Government Exhibit 3004.
4 We're going to move to transaction 34.

5 Did you purchase narcotics on September 8 of 2020,
6 Detective Murphy?

7 A. Yes, I did.

8 Q. Can you walk us through the information on Government
9 Exhibit 3004 for transaction 34?

10 A. The transaction 34 was done on September 8, 2020. I
11 purchased eight capsules of crack for \$140 of U.S. currency.
12 JD Duke, JD Smooth, JD Harlem were all present. This happened
13 at 688 8th Avenue.

14 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's in evidence as
15 Government Exhibit 434A.

16 (Video played)

17 Q. Before we begin playing this, again, orient the jury to
18 what we're looking at in the first frame of Government Exhibit
19 434A?

20 A. Again, I was on the southwest corner of 43rd Street and 8th
21 Avenue, and I am facing eastbound, facing the west which is on
22 the east side of the street.

23 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please play the first two or three
24 seconds of this particular clip.

25 (Video played)

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. Two or three more seconds, please.

2 (Video played)

3 Q. As you approached the intersection we're paused here at
4 second 6, do you recognize anyone as you approached the
5 intersection?

6 A. Yes. I recognized JD Tre. You could see him on the right
7 side of the screen. JD, who I later learned to be JD Trinny,
8 is just left of him.

9 Q. Is there anyone else who was there that day that you
10 recall?

11 A. Yes. I believe JD Duke was there as well. I would have to
12 watch the video to be a hundred percent certain.

13 Q. Mr. Foley, could you play the video beginning at second 6.

14 (Video played)

15 Q. As you stood in that group, did you recognize anyone at
16 that intersection?

17 A. Yes, I'm in the middle of the group, and sitting down, you
18 briefly saw him, was JD Duke. Standing up, leaning against the
19 pole was Mr. Mial. And facing me right here in this video
20 screenshot is JD Harlem.

21 Q. Continue playing from here, Mr. Foley.

22 (Video played)

23 Q. Pause at second 41 of the clip.

24 Detective Murphy, what are you doing at this point in
25 the video?

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 A. At this point in the video I'm standing in the middle of
2 the street. I was standing next to JD Harlem just seconds ago
3 who turned and spoke with JD Duke prior to that.

4 Q. Why are you standing with JD Harlem?

5 A. JD Harlem was told to take me up to the block to take care
6 of me to sell me drugs.

7 Q. Go ahead, Mr. Foley, continue playing from second 41.

8 (Video played)

9 Q. When you said 140, what were you referencing, Detective
10 Murphy?

11 A. The amount of currency which I was looking to spend on
12 crack cocaine.

13 Q. The record is paused at one minute, 4 seconds. Mr. Foley,
14 if you could continue playing.

15 (Video played)

16 Q. Did you successfully purchase narcotics from JD Harlem on
17 that day?

18 A. I did.

19 Q. How were they packaged?

20 A. They were capsules.

21 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please turn back to Government Exhibit
22 3004.

23 And, Detective Murphy, I'd like to direct your
24 attention to the very next day, September 9, 2020. Did you
25 purchase narcotics on September 9, 2020?

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 A. Yes, I did.

2 Q. From who?

3 A. From Mr. Mial.

4 Q. Could you please just walk us through the information on
5 Government Exhibit 3004 as it relates to transaction 35.

6 A. On that day, September 9, 2020, I purchased 15 capsules of
7 crack cocaine for \$140 of U.S. currency near 249 West 43rd
8 Street.

9 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's in evidence as
10 Government Exhibit 435A. You can begin playing that clip and
11 pause it at second 10.

12 (Video played)

13 Q. As you stood waiting, did you see anyone you recognized?

14 A. Yes, Mr. Mial approached me.

15 Q. What did he instruct you to do?

16 A. Walk up a little more.

17 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could continue playing to 52.

18 (Video played)

19 Q. Detective Murphy, as you stood there, what did you observe?

20 A. A drug transaction between Mr. Mial and another person who
21 was unidentified.

22 Q. When the defendant said, "Look out," what did you
23 understand that to mean?

24 A. It's common street terminology for "Look out. Watch my
25 back. Look for cops."

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. Did you make a narcotics purchase from the defendant that
2 day?

3 A. I did.

4 Q. Mr. Foley, continue playing the clip beginning at 54
5 seconds.

6 (Video played)

7 Q. When the defendant said "15," what did you understand him
8 to be communicating?

9 A. He told me he was giving me 15 capsules of crack cocaine.

10 Q. Mr. Foley, if we could go back to Government Exhibit 3004,
11 I'd like to turn to transaction 37.

12 Detective Murphy, when did transaction 37 occur?

13 A. September 15, 2020.

14 Q. Can you summarize what you purchased that day and where
15 that purchase took place?

16 A. I purchased 20 capsules of crack cocaine for \$140 of U.S.
17 currency. I purchased from persons present were JD Trinny, JD
18 Smooth, JD Duke, and JD Tre. And that was near 255 West 43rd
19 Street.

20 Q. Mr. Foley, please publish what's in evidence as Government
21 Exhibit 437A. When that comes up, I'm going to ask you to play
22 it and pause at nine seconds.

23 (Video played)

24 MS. NICOLAS: We may be having a technical issue here.

25 Q. Take it back about one second.

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 Detective Murphy, where is this camera recording right
2 now?

3 A. This camera we're on 43rd Street just east of 8th Avenue,
4 just east of the Times Square Hotel where in the previous
5 exhibits you've seen a psychic sign, it's right there.

6 Q. What were you saying as you walked down this portion of the
7 sidewalk?

8 A. This individual was asking me what I was looking for. This
9 is JD Trinny. I didn't recognize him at that point in time, so
10 I told him I was looking for -- and I used street names for the
11 individuals involved in this case.

12 Q. And what street names did you use?

13 A. I said I told him I was looking for JD Tre.

14 Q. Next to you, there is a Government Exhibit marked
15 Government Exhibit 107A. Do you see that?

16 A. I do.

17 Q. Do you recognize that individual?

18 A. Yes, I do.

19 Q. Who is that?

20 A. This is JD Trinny. It's a screenshot taken off of one of
21 my videos.

22 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, at this time the government
23 offers Government Exhibit 107A.

24 MR. McGUINNESS: No objection.

25 THE COURT: Received.

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 (Government's Exhibit 107A received in evidence)

2 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could take 107A from the witness and
3 place it by JD Trinny's JD name on the screen.

4 After you referenced Duke and Tre, how did JD Trinny
5 respond?

6 A. Not using his exact words, from this point forward on the
7 video, you're going to see he tells me he remembers me. He
8 describes himself, and he tells me he's one of the guys.

9 Q. Mr. Foley, could you begin playing a second and -- second
10 30, if you could take it back one second.

11 (Video played)

12 Q. Can you describe what we just observed during that buy?

13 A. I didn't purchase yet. This is the beginning parts of the
14 purchase. I was talking with JD Trinny. I did not recognize
15 him. He told me he was the guy. I told him how much I wanted,
16 at which point he said to me "I have to go get another packet."

17 Q. In that interaction, did he refer to a shift?

18 A. Yes, he told me that he was the nighttime, and then he
19 corrected and said daytime shift.

20 Q. What did you understand that to mean?

21 A. What hours he worked.

22 Q. And by "worked," what do you mean?

23 A. Sold drugs.

24 Q. When he told you he needed a packet, what did you
25 understand that to mean?

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 A. Packet is terminology for package of drugs. You've seen in
2 videos someone holding a sandwich bag they'll have a sandwich
3 bag or some sort of container. Inside of there will be a
4 number of smaller bags or capsules of crack cocaine. That's
5 called a package, the larger bag of the capsules of crack
6 cocaine.

7 Q. When he said he needed "a packet," what did you understand
8 that to mean?

9 A. I took that to mean he was going to re-up, as street
10 terminology, or go get more drugs so he could fulfill what I
11 asked for.

12 Q. After you asked that, did you see where he went?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Could you describe where he went?

15 A. He went to the southeast corner of 43rd Street and 8th
16 Avenue of where I lost sight of him.

17 Q. Can you see JD Trinny in the frame here?

18 A. Yes. You can see him walking away if you look at the W in
19 Westin, he's the male a little below that still in the street.

20 Q. Did he eventually return to you?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. While he was gone, what did you do?

23 A. I spoke with the street individual who I recognize and, you
24 know, who hangs out in the area of 43rd Street and 8th Avenue.

25 Q. Did you speak with the defendant?

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 A. I did. I placed a phone call to Mr. Mial.

2 Q. Why did you do that?

3 A. I was unsure still at the beginning of this buy of who
4 JD Trinny was, so I called Mr. Mial to confirm if he was out or
5 if JD Trinny was the person.

6 Q. Did you successfully purchase narcotics from JD Trinny when
7 he returned?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. After that narcotics purchase, what did you do?

10 A. I walked to the southeast corner of 43rd Street and 8th
11 Avenue so I could get a look to see who was hanging around on
12 the corner to see if I could see any subjects that were
13 involved in this case.

14 Q. From a law enforcement perspective, why did you do that?

15 A. I wanted to know where JD Trinny was going and see if
16 possible any individuals that were in the direction of where he
17 went.

18 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's in evidence as
19 Government Exhibit 437B.

20 Before you play, I'm going to have the witness, if you
21 could just orient the jury to what's in the first frame here.

22 (Video played)

23 A. This is the Foundry. This is the little cafe. Next to it
24 is another cafe that's attached to the Westin Hotel, so I'm
25 physically standing on the southeast corner of 43rd Street and

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 8th Avenue looking southbound.

2 Q. Is that consistent with the area JD Trinny walked to
3 moments earlier?

4 A. Yes, this is the corner where I last seen him.

5 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could hit play, please.

6 (Video played).

7
8 Q. Take it about about two seconds.

9 As you turned that corner, did you see anyone you
10 recognized?

11 A. Yes, I observed Mr. Mial sitting there. And as I was
12 standing there, he started to speak with me.

13 Q. Did you see anyone else you recognized?

14 A. Yes, JD Duke.

15 Q. Mr. Foley, go ahead and hit play.

16 (Video played)

17 Q. Please describe that interaction with the defendant.

18 A. The defendant was speaking to me, telling me that if I call
19 him, I should come to him. I told him, you know, I was calling
20 to make sure that JD Trinny works with them. And next to the
21 defendant you seen JD Duke and JD Tre.

22 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish Government Exhibit
23 3004.

24 And, Detective Murphy, directing your attention to
25 transaction 38. Did you purchase narcotics during transaction

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 38?

2 A. I did.

3 Q. What date did that take place on?

4 A. September 18, 2020.

5 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's in evidence as
6 Government Exhibit 838A.

7 Detective Murphy, what's displayed on the screen in
8 Government Exhibit 838A?

9 A. It is a screenshot of my UC phone with my communications
10 with Mr. Mial.

11 Q. The timestamp -- excuse me -- the date stamp Friday,
12 September 8, 2020, can you read your message from 4:29 p.m.?

13 THE COURT: I think you said 8th. It's 18th.

14 Q. Excuse me, Friday, September 18 at 2020 at 4:29 p.m.?

15 A. Yes, the timestamp for the 18th is "I'll be by in like 15
16 minute. WYA." Where are you at?

17 Q. What were you communicating in that type message?

18 A. That message I was looking to find out where Mr. Mial was
19 so that I could purchase narcotics.

20 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could keep scrolling down.

21 If you could, Detective Murphy, describe your
22 conversations with the defendant here.

23 A. He told me where to meet him. He said 43rd Street and 9th
24 Avenue by Starbucks. I told him, "Okay, I'm almost there." I
25 told him I was on 42nd Street. At that point he told me to

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 come to 43rd Street and 8th Avenue. He said he's by the train
2 station.

3 Q. Mr. Foley, can you scroll down. And how did you respond?

4 A. "K" as in okay.

5 Q. So after that, Mr. Foley, if you scroll back up, please.

6 Was that the last text message that you sent to the
7 defendant on September 18?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Based on that conversation, where did you go?

10 A. I went to the corner of 43rd Street and 8th Avenue. There
11 are right over there a couple subway entrances. There's one on
12 42nd, one on 43rd. There's also one on the east side between
13 42nd and 43rd. I looked around. I observed individuals
14 hanging around on the east side of 8th Avenue by that subway
15 entrance.

16 Q. Mr. Foley, would you please publish what's in evidence as
17 438A, and play the first 15 seconds.

18 Can you describe where the part of this video is
19 recorded?

20 A. This video is recorded on 43rd Street -- well, it's on 8th
21 Avenue just south of 43rd Street. Where we're looking, we're
22 facing 42nd Street, it's the east side of the street.

23 Q. Is there a subway entrance visible in this frame at 15
24 seconds?

25 A. Yes, there is.

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could please take it back to an earlier
2 frame.

3 As you approached -- can we pause at 14 seconds?

4 As you approached that subway entrance, did you see
5 anyone you recognized?

6 A. Yes. As I was approaching, I observed Mr. Mial. You could
7 see him holding the scooter. To Mr. Mial's right, our left
8 looking at this, is JD Trinny. Prior to this, me being this
9 close, you'll observe JD Harlem leave the group and go into the
10 subway.

11 Q. Now, as you approached that group, what -- as you
12 approached that group, what happened?

13 A. As I approached that group, I was instructed to go into the
14 subway.

15 Q. Who instructed you?

16 A. Mr. Mial.

17 Q. Is that audible on the video?

18 A. I haven't watched the video really recently, so I'm not
19 sure of that, no.

20 Q. Mr. Foley, can you play the video beginning at 14 seconds.

21 (Video played)

22 Q. We are now paused at 20 seconds. Is Mr. Mial's instruction
23 to you audible on the video?

24 A. I couldn't hear it on the video, but you do hear me saying
25 "Yeah, yeah, yeah." So in response to Mr. Mial telling me to

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 go into the subway, I said, "Yeah, yeah, yeah," and I continued
2 into the subway where I seen JD Harlem go.

3 Q. Is there is there any reason why your recording equipment
4 might not pick something up, like instructions by the
5 defendant?

6 A. Direction of the equipment. If somebody is standing behind
7 me or to the side of me, it's hard to pick up sounds.

8 Q. Did you follow the defendant's instruction to enter the
9 subway?

10 A. I did.

11 Q. Mr. Foley, begin playing at 20 seconds.

12 (Video played)

13 Q. As you entered the subway, did you encounter someone you
14 recognized?

15 A. Yes, standing in this shot, you can't really see his face,
16 but that's JD Harlem.

17 Q. Have you purchased narcotics from JD Harlem before?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. How did you communicate on this day how much you wanted to
20 purchase from him?

21 A. I told him the money value I wanted, I believe I said 160.

22 Q. Did you in fact purchase \$160 worth of crack cocaine on
23 that day?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. While you were purchasing narcotics, what else did you

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 observe?

2 A. I observed another individual walking to the subway and
3 interact with us.

4 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please play the video from here until
5 one minute and 12 seconds.

6 (Video played)

7 Q. Mr. Foley, you can pull that down. Pull back up Government
8 Exhibit 3004, please.

9 Detective Murphy, I want to direct your attention to
10 transaction 39. When did transaction 39 occur?

11 A. September 22, 2020.

12 Q. On that date, did you speak with the defendant on the
13 phone?

14 A. I would have to look at my phone call logs to be one
15 hundred percent certain.

16 Q. Mr. Foley, could you publish what's in evidence as
17 Government Exhibit 802A, in terms of page 5.

18 Focusing on September 22, 2020, referencing Government
19 Exhibit 802A, did you speak to the defendant on the phone that
20 day?

21 A. Yes, we had four phone calls.

22 Q. In sum and substance, what were those phone calls about?

23 A. The phone calls were making an agreement to meet at a
24 location for me to purchase narcotics.

25 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please publish what's in evidence as

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 Government Exhibit 439B.

2 Before we begin watching 439B, Detective Murphy, could
3 you read for me the timestamp that's on the bottom right corner
4 of the screen.

5 A. It's 17:10 hours, which is 5:17 p.m., and the date is
6 September 22, 2020.

7 Q. 17:10 is what time?

8 A. 5:10 p.m.

9 Q. Is that close in time to when you were communicating with
10 the defendant by phone?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Before we begin watching this, do you recognize anyone in
13 the first frame of this video?

14 A. Yes, in the lower right-hand corner of the video wearing
15 the Pirates hat, black baseball hat, is Mr. Mial.

16 Q. Do you recall how he was communicating that day?

17 A. I believe to the best my recollection, he was on a scooter
18 again.

19 Q. Did you approach him once you recognized him on the street?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Mr. Foley, could you begin playing Government Exhibit 439B.

22 (Video played)

23 Q. When the defendant said, "You got my last 18," what did you
24 understand that to mean?

25 A. My last 18, meaning last 18 capsules he had on his person.

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 That's what I took that to mean.

2 Q. Did your investigation continue into October 2020?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. You testified earlier the defendant eventually gave you a
5 second phone number. Is that correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what is in evidence as
8 Government Exhibit 801B.

9 Detective Murphy, what is Government Exhibit 801B?

10 A. It is a screenshot of my UC cell phone. Reading it, you
11 could see it says, "Smooth 2." That is Mr. Mial's number, the
12 second number he used to contact me with.

13 Q. Read that phone number into the record, please.

14 A. The phone number for the contact Smooth 2 is 347-896-9051.

15 Q. Did you ever communicate with the defendant using text
16 messages with this phone number?

17 A. Yes, I did.

18 Q. Mr. Foley, would you please publish what's in evidence as
19 Government Exhibit 841B.

20 beginning at the top, what's the date of that second
21 message with the phone number?

22 A. On October 6, 2020, which was a Tuesday, Mr. Mial was the
23 first to text me. He let me know it was Smooth. And I said
24 okay.

25 Q. And what's the next thing that the defendant said to you at

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 4:41 p.m.?

2 A. He told me that he was on 43rd and 8th, meaning 8th Avenue
3 and 43rd Street sitting down. Then he changed to say where he
4 was. He said, "Meet me on 43rd," meaning 43rd Street, "towards
5 9th," meaning 9th Avenue where the park is.

6 Q. Is that in the vicinity of your earlier buys in this case?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Did you in fact go to 43rd and 8th to make a purchase on
9 October 6 of 2020?

10 A. I did.

11 Q. Mr. Foley, would you please publish what's in evidence as
12 Government Exhibit 441A.

13 (Video played)

14 Q. Detective Murphy, can you describe what occurred in that
15 clip?

16 A. What happened was as I was approaching the city park there,
17 it's on the north side of 43rd Street, closer to 9th Avenue, as
18 I was approaching the park, Mr. Mial approached me on his
19 scooter. He handed me a bag, and he said it was just the
20 weight value. It wasn't broken down into capsules. I agreed
21 upon that and made the exchange. I was trying to ask him how
22 much weight it was, and he told me it was two grams.

23 Q. Mr. Foley, can you please go back to Government Exhibit
24 3004, please. I'd like to move down and turn your attention to
25 transaction 43.

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 Detective Murphy, when did transaction 43 occur?

2 A. It happened in October 14, 2020.

3 Q. On that date, what did you purchase?

4 A. I purchased 15 capsules of crack for \$160 of U.S. currency.

5 The location was opposite of 255 West 43rd Street.

6 Q. Mr. Foley, please publish what's in evidence as Government

7 Exhibit 443A and just play the first one or two seconds,

8 please.

9 (Video played)

10 Q. Detective Murphy, do you recognize this area?

11 A. Yes. I don't recall exactly what corner I'm standing on at

12 this time. Actually, I do. I'm on 42nd Street west of 9th

13 Avenue in this photo.

14 Q. Mr. Foley, if you could continue to play from four seconds

15 in on Government Exhibit 443.

16 (Video played)

17 Q. Mr. Foley, pause for one second. Pull that down and please

18 pull up Government Exhibit 443A.

19 Do you recognize this corner?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Is this a clip of the longer video we just watched the

22 first one or two seconds of?

23 A. Yes. Where I started was where I started the video. It

24 takes me a couple minutes, and then I get to this location.

25 Q. What is this location?

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 A. This is the Westin, the cafe that's next to it, the
2 Foundry. It's on the southeast corner of 43rd Street and 8th
3 Avenue.

4 Q. What happens as you approach the corner?

5 A. I observe subjects which I had recognized, JD Harlem and
6 individual in the gray sweatsuit is JD Mac.

7 Q. Had you seen JD Mac before?

8 A. I don't recall if this is the first buy with JD Mac or not.
9 I'm not sure.

10 Q. To your left, there should be a Government Exhibit marked
11 Government Exhibit 106A. Do you see that there?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. What is that?

14 A. This is from one of my videos. It's JD Mac, a screenshot
15 pulled off of the video.

16 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, the government offers
17 Government Exhibit 106A into evidence?

18 THE COURT: Any objection?

19 MR. MCGUINNESS: No objection.

20 THE COURT: Received.

21 (Government's Exhibit 106A received in evidence)

22 Q. Mr. Foley, please place that on the board by JD Mac's JD
23 name.

24 Detective Murphy, as you approached JD Mac on this
25 day, October 14 of 2020, do you recall what happened?

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 A. Yes. We eventually walked eastbound on 43rd Street, and I
2 purchased narcotics.

3 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please hit play beginning where the
4 video is currently paused.

5 (Video played)

6 Q. Detective Murphy, during that interaction, what did you
7 observe JD Mac to be doing?

8 A. During that interaction, myself and JD Mac were walking
9 eastbound on 43rd. Next to JD Mac was JD Harlem, who also was
10 on the corner when I approached. You could hear in the video
11 JD Mac told JD Harlem, "I got four." He was referring to four
12 capsules of crack cocaine. And JD Mac gave me the four
13 capsules of crack cocaine, and he told me JD Harlem, without
14 using his name, would give me the other 12 for a total of 16
15 capsules of crack cocaine, which would equal \$160 of U.S.
16 currency. Once we got further up the block and JD Harlem
17 handed me the 12 capsules of crack cocaine, I argued for free
18 bags because I wanted more.

19 Q. Turning your attention now to October 20 of 2020,
20 Mr. Foley, can you please publish what's in evidence as
21 Government Exhibit 845A. Go to page 2, please. Excuse me,
22 page 1.

23 Can you describe the conversation between yourself and
24 the defendant on this day?

25 A. On this day, I tried to get Mr. Mial to meet me at a

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 different location other than 43rd Street.

2 Q. Why did you do that?

3 A. I did that because we wanted to find out which vehicle
4 Mr. Mial was driving and attempt to get his license plate
5 number.

6 Q. Mr. Foley, can you continue to scroll down on Government
7 Exhibit 845A, please.

8 Ultimately, where did the defendant ask you to meet
9 him on this day?

10 A. The first text messages I had with him were earlier in the
11 day. As the day went on, a little bit before 5:00 p.m.,
12 Mr. Mial told me that I would have to come to him. Then at
13 5:11 p.m. he told me to meet him on 41st Street and 8th Avenue.

14 Q. Did you in fact go to 41st and 8th?

15 A. I did.

16 Q. Mr. Foley, could you please publish what's in evidence as
17 Government Exhibit 445A.

18 (Video played)

19 Q. As you crossed the sidewalk at the beginning of the video
20 at 41st and 8th, did you recognize anyone?

21 A. Yes, Mr. Mial was on the corner of 41st and 8th, but he was
22 on the northeast corner. I was on the southeast corner.
23 Mr. Mial then approached me.

24 Q. What did he instruct you to do?

25 A. As we walked, he told me to keep walking. He was going to

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 head up ahead and get it ready.

2 Q. Did you in fact follow him further up the block?

3 A. I did. I followed the direction Mr. Mial went.

4 Q. Mr. Foley, please publish what's in evidence as be
5 Government Exhibit 445B.

6 (Video played)

7 Q. Detective Murphy, can you describe what just occurred
8 during that portion of the video?

9 A. Once I finally got up to Mr. Mial where he had stopped on
10 his little scooter, I approached him. I said, "You good?" He
11 said, "Yeah." He handed me narcotics, crack cocaine. We made
12 the exchange. I gave him my money, at which point he told me,
13 "I would have come to you, but, you know, I had things to do
14 and my car's parked." I told him, "That's all right, no big
15 deal," and I left the location.

16 Q. As it relates to this transaction, Mr. Foley, if you could
17 pull up Government Exhibit 3004.

18 THE COURT: Ms. Nicolas, it's 4:58. I want to bring
19 it in before 5:00. Can you find us a natural break point?

20 MS. NICOLAS: It's my final question.

21 THE COURT: Very good.

22 Q. On that particular day, Detective Murphy, looking at
23 Exhibit 3004, transaction 45, what quantity of narcotics did
24 you purchase on that day?

25 A. I purchased 23 capsules of crack cocaine for \$200 of U.S.

MAIQmia7

Murphy - Direct

1 currency from Mr. Mial, JD Smooth in front of 230 West 41st
2 Street.

3 MS. NICOLAS: Your Honor, I think that's a natural
4 breaking point.

5 THE COURT: Very good.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, it's 5:00. It's time to adjourn
7 for the day. I will ask everyone to kindly put your transcript
8 binders underneath your chairs. We'll pick up with them
9 tomorrow morning. Same schedule for tomorrow as today.
10 Breakfast will be available at 8:45. I ask everyone to please
11 be here at 9:20. I will bring you out at 9:30 assuming
12 everybody is here. We made good tracks today, and I'm
13 confident we'll make more tomorrow. I wish you good evening.
14 Safe trip home. And, as always, please don't discuss the case.

15 (Continued on next page)

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1 (Jury not present)

2 THE COURT: Do counsel have anything to take up before
3 we adjourn?

4 MR. McGUINNESS: No, your Honor. I will say by way of
5 scheduling estimations, I believe at sometime I said I was
6 going to take approximately the same amount of time with the
7 undercover agent. It's going to be considerably shorter.

8 THE COURT: That's welcome news. That's good to hear.

9 Ms. Nicolas, how long do you envision you have
10 remaining on direct? Not hurrying you; it's important
11 testimony.

12 MS. NICOLAS: I have about eight more transactions to
13 get through. So I anticipate less than an hour but hard to say
14 exactly.

15 THE COURT: Not holding you to it, but it may matter
16 because of the the Conga line of lab experts for us tomorrow.
17 Can you ballpark for us how long you think cross might be?

18 MR. McGUINNESS: It will be less than two hours.

19 THE COURT: You'll surely have the afternoon for those
20 witnesses, and perhaps yet more than that. Very good.

21 I have nothing else for you. I know Mr. Smallman
22 raised an issue just privately with the government table with
23 respect to people leaving the courtroom during the closure for
24 the undercover. Be mindful of that.

25 MR. BHATIA: We will, your Honor. And there is one

MAIQmia7

1 thing we wanted to raise.

2 On the logistics for tomorrow, I guess the Conga line
3 that will start tomorrow, the experts need to be qualified as
4 expert witnesses, and so we're planning to ask all of those
5 standard: Where did you go to college? What did you do? Have
6 you performed tests?

7 THE COURT: These are people who simply test drugs to
8 determine -- test substances to determine whether they are in
9 this case crack cocaine.

10 MR. BHATIA: Yes, that's right.

11 THE COURT: All right.

12 MR. BHATIA: Our question is a logistical one of how
13 you prefer to have us qualify them in the beginning. I know
14 different courts have different practices.

15 THE COURT: Let me, first of all, just make sure that
16 is the required step here.

17 Defense? Whatever other issues are, is that going to
18 be in dispute?

19 MR. MCGUINNESS: Judge, I don't plan on voir diring
20 them on their qualifications, objecting to their
21 qualifications. Any de minimus presentation that they are
22 qualified will be fine.

23 THE COURT: Look, Mr. Bhatia, how about this: Present
24 the questions in succinct form enough to create a factual basis
25 for their being qualified. And then ask -- I ask that Ms. JD

MAIQmia7

1 Doe be qualified as an expert in what's the right formulation?
2 Forensic something?

3 MR. BHATIA: I think they're called criminalists.

4 THE COURT: Is that right, as opposed to something
5 that really describes what they're doing.

6 MR. BHATIA: As opposed to forensic scientists.

7 THE COURT: I want to make sure the formulation is
8 targeted to the issue at hand. Are these chemists, for
9 example?

10 MR. BHATIA: We can say experts in the field of
11 controlled substance analysis.

12 THE COURT: Look, Mr. McGuinness, that feels targeted
13 enough to me and sounds right to me. Do you have an issue with
14 that being the formulation?

15 MR. McGUINNESS: No, your Honor.

16 THE COURT: I don't want to create an issue tomorrow.
17 There are probably five or six different slight variations on
18 how the relevant expertise can be described. Do you have an
19 objection if the government formulates it that way? It sounds
20 fine to me.

21 MR. McGUINNESS: Can I hear it one more time?

22 MR. BHATIA: An expert in the field of controlled
23 substance analysis.

24 MR. McGUINNESS: That's fine.

25 THE COURT: Succinct questions to call out the

MAIQmia7

1 credentials, and I ask the expert will be qualified as an
2 expert in that field, and I will say he or she is so qualified.

3 MR. BHATIA: We had previously proposed to the defense
4 and drafted a stipulation that would list out their credentials
5 and say that they are qualified under the relevant rules of
6 evidence. Hearing that defense counsel doesn't expect to
7 challenge that, I will re-propose the same stipulation.

8 THE COURT: That's for you to stipulate or not.
9 Defense counsel is putting you to your proof, but he's making
10 it clear he is not going to fight and die on that hill. For
11 the time being, I encourage you to be as succinct as you need
12 to be and encourage the witness to be. You know, would you
13 briefly set out your education and relevant credentials, and
14 tell them you're expecting the 60 to 90-second version,
15 something like that that should do the trick. I have a hunch
16 after several of these, the stipulation that you seek may come
17 in midstream, maybe it won't, but I'm not going to force
18 anything on the defense.

19 MR. BHATIA: Okay.

20 THE COURT: How long do you imagine a typical such
21 examination is going to last?

22 MR. BHATIA: So the first, and maybe the second one, I
23 was planning to go into some depth on what the police lab test,
24 how they do their testing, et cetera. For the ones after that,
25 I think it could be quite short.

MAIQmia7

1 THE COURT: Good. I encourage you to do that. I
2 think that's right. The first several just to educate the
3 jury, and afterwards considerably shorter, and if ultimately
4 you run into a situation where there's meaningful cross testing
5 the integrity of the conclusions, you may need to refer to the
6 long form.

7 MR. BHATIA: That's right.

8 THE COURT: Anything further from anyone?

9 MR. McGUINNESS: No. Thank you.

10 MR. BHATIA: Not from us.

11 THE COURT: I assume that there's some mode you have
12 to get the undercover out of here, given that he's leaving
13 around the same time as the jury, but just be attentive to
14 that, for obvious reasons.

15 Very good. I will see counsel at 9:00 tomorrow.

16 One other issue. There's an outstanding issue on my
17 plate which I need not resolve tonight, but as to the
18 government's motion to preclude lines of cross-examination as
19 to disciplinary matters as to Officers 3, 4 and 5. Under the
20 circumstances, it seems improbable we will get to them
21 tomorrow.

22 Is that the government's estimation? Just given all
23 the lab people.

24 MR. BHATIA: We might, your Honor, be able --
25 depending how quickly tomorrow goes, I know with many short

MAIQmia7

1 witnesses, it can either become very quick or it can really
2 drag.

3 THE COURT: Why don't we be prepared to take that up
4 tomorrow morning.

5 Look, Mr. McGuinness, in the interest of moving us
6 along, the first question will be to you, which is whether you
7 object to anything the government is seeking to preclude.

8 MR. MCGUINNESS: Yes, your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Have a good evening.

10 (Trial continued October 19, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.)
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14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

INDEX OF EXAMINATION

Examination of:	Page
-----------------	------

DENNIS FREY

Direct By Mr. Bhatia 73

Cross By Mr. McGuinness 85

JOSÉ TAVERAS

Direct By Mr. Bhatia 87

Cross By Mr. McGuinness 92

Redirect By Mr. Bhatia 93

ED MURPHY

Direct By Ms. Nicolas103

GOVERNMENT EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.	Received
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200377

90478

90779

90581

90282

90383

s 902P-905P and 907P84

90190

901P95

401 to 467, exclusive of 419, 425, 431 . . . 132

or 453 and 454

412T, 420T, 427T, 432T, 434T, 435T, 134

1	437T, 438T, 441T, 444T, 445T,	
2	446T and 447T, 449T, 451T,	
3	455T, 464T and 467T	
4	299 and 299P	135
5	101C, 101D, 102C, 103C, 103D, 104C,	145
6	105C, 106C, 107C and 108C	
7	201-267 and 201P-267P	147
8	3004	152
9	102B	155
10	101B	156
11	3006	161
12	301-308	165
13	102A	193
14	103A	196
15	105A	200
16	104A	204
17	101A	207
18	801A, 801B, 802A, 802B, 827A, 828A,	235
19	838A, 841B, 842A, 845A, 847A,	
20	853A, and 856A	
21	107A	256
22	106A	269
23		
24		
25		